

THE MAD "LORD OF
THE RINGS" MUSICAL

OUR VERSION
OF "VEGAS"

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JAFFEE

DAVE
BERG

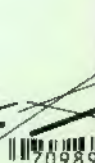
DON
MARTIN

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No. 210 October '79

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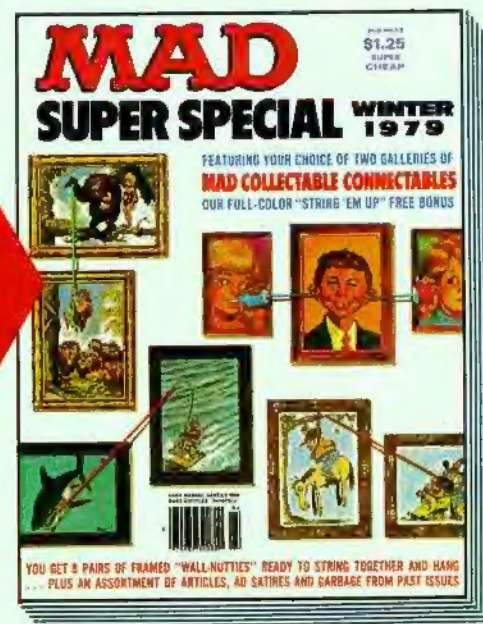
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"The trouble with most vacation resorts is: they never have the same shapely girls you saw in their ads!"—Alfred E. Neuman

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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS
the usual gang of idiots

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**Various Places Around The Magazine

FRONT COVER: ARTIST & WRITER—SERGIO ARAGONES
BACK COVER MAD MINI-POSTER: ARTIST—NORMAN MINGO, WRITER—AL JAFFEE

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VITAL FEATURES

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(A MAD Musical)
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THE MAD NASTY BOOK
Pg. 11

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"VAGUE-\$"
(A MAD TV Show Satire)
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ONLY FIVE LEFT!

Yep, there are only five centimeters left in this column, just enough to make our usual idiotic sales pitch for full-color portraits of Alfred E. Neuman MAD's "What-Me Worry Kid?" ... suitable for framing or wrapping fish! You can have yours by mailing: 35¢ for one, 78¢ for 3, \$1.55 for 9, \$3.15 for 27 or \$6.35 for 81 to: MAD, 485 MADison Avenue, N.Y., N.Y. 10022 (The Godfather just called and said, "That's-a some-metric you pulled!")



LETTERS DEPT.



SUPERDUPERMAN

Your article on "Superduperman" is more powerful than a locomotive. It points out in a mild-mannered way why we have never seen Alfred E. Neuman near kryptonite.

Bob Boyd
Miami Beach,
Florida

The consensus here at DC Comics Inc. "Superduperman" is super-duper, man!
Jack C. Harris
Editor/DC Comics Inc.
New York, N.Y.

Could you please tell me why the office window of "Berry Blight" bore the name of "Perry White?"

Kyong Pak
New York, N.Y.

Berry was using it while Perry was out of town!—Ed.

On page six of the Superman Satire, you show a funny looking train that is labeled LONG ISLAND RAILROAD. As a regular rider, I resent the remarks you make about its slowness and junkiness. Are you sure Mort Drucker didn't have AMTRAK in mind?

Adam Trese
New York, N.Y.

Since Mort lives on Long Island, he must know what he's talking about!—Ed.

I wonder how Curt Swan, who has drawn Superman for DC since the early 1950's, felt about his character flying around with your character?

John Aldridge
Yuba City, Calif.



SUPERMAN © 1979 by DC Comics Inc.

DC "Superman" Artist Reacts

A MAD LOOK AT SUPERMAN

I expected a svelte, supple and nimble Superman from Drucker, but no characterization will ever supersede Martin's Superman with floppy feet!

Robert Pennachio
Ramsey, New Jersey

RUNNING FOR COVER

Truthfully, I've missed some of the heavy statements you used to make, on your back covers. They were invariably the profound exclamation mark that punctuated an issue, without diminishing the fun and satire inside. I think your readers anticipate your "no kidding" statement on nuclear power plants. Witness the far-flung repercussions in a poignant statement from Kucho, Japan, as a consequence of what happened at Three Mile Island . . . "How should we escape if we had an accident here? Do you think you could take your car and just drive off? No, radiation travels faster than a car. And what would happen to the tangerine trees? They can't move. What would happen to the sea? And to the paddies and fields?"

Karen Carbone
Whitman, Mass.

WHAT IS HUMILITY?

Sergio Aragonés has absolutely flattered Tom Koch's excellent "What Is Humility?" with some well-suited scenes. The one showing the two men pulling and coaxing the obvious winner to his rightful #1 position on the Olympics stand, is a magazine-stopper!

Sean MacGregor
Montclair, N.J.

Tom Koch's "What Is Humility?" scored a bull's-eye. It is brilliant, in my humble opinion!

Mike Thibodeau
Seattle, Wash.

THE SPACE AGE RAZOR RACE

Congratulations are in order! In Al Jaffee's "The Space Age Razor Race," he managed to put a fusion chamber into a razor handle. No Nuclear Physicist has accomplished that yet! The Technology required to produce the magnetics to hold a fusion reaction has yet to be developed. And, what if some fool ran out and bought all the so-called "neutron razors"? He could make his own atomic threats to the world.

Beth Davis
Nuclear Medicine Student
Ferris State College
Auburn, Michigan

MAD EXPLORES THE TV RATINGS SYSTEM

"MAD Explores The TV Ratings System," by Siegel and North, cites three Neelsin viewers in Buffalo, N.Y. You don't need three people for a Neelsin poll in Buffalo; just one out-of-work, Love Canal-chemically-contaminated, loyal (and stupid!) Buffalo Bills football fan will do it!

Vin Caldwell
Buffalo, N.Y.

RE-WRITING CLASSICAL POETRY TO GIVE WOMEN EQUAL TIME

Zelda Din, Gunga's twin sister, doing the regimental wash; Cathy coming to bat and changing Mudville's losing ways; Maude Revere slinging her slumbering Paul into the saddle to insure his historic ride; are all marvelous alterations that convince me that "a woman's place is in the poem"! Koch and Woodbridge created another MAD evergreen in their "Re-Writing Classical Poetry To Give Women Equal Time." I intend re-reading this re-writing, re-peatedly.

Hella Smit
Amsterdam, Holland

On reading your giving equal time to women, it dawned on me that MAD doesn't have any regular female writers. What are you guys? Male chauvinists? Please explain!

Chris Martin
Denver, Colo.

Like they say in bars: "Ladies Invited!"—Ed.

CANDID CLOSE-UPS OF SOME LEGENDARY FEET

There are lots of energetic things going on in Bob Jones's illustrations for "Candid Close-Ups Of Some Legendary Feet." Good footwork!

Maria Lane
Alhambra, Calif.

CATTLE CAR GALAXICA

I must compliment Angelo Torres and Dick De Bartolo on "Cattle Car Galaxica." Quite nicely, they exposed the visual and verbal gimmicks for the cheap devices they are. Particularly clever was the chiding of the asinine misuse of units of measure and the shameless appropriation of classic full-length film plots. Of course, each episode contained an inexcusable amount of technical errors, in addition to the usual number of non-technical "common sense" errors that were inherent in the series. "Cattle Car Galaxica" did a superb job on that insipid series without delving into these details, which would have amounted to an unmerciful overkill.

Fred Erhardt
Newport News, Va.

Your "Galaxica" feature kept me in stitches for quite a few centons.

Tim Anderson
Paradise, Calif.

"Cattle Car..." was a bunch of bull.

Brian McConnell
Atlantic Highlands,
New Jersey

SUPER HERNIA

On the back cover of your Superman Issue, you have the Man of Steel sitting in a doctor's office, fully dressed. How does the Doc know it's a Super Hernia if the big guy still has his tights on? X-ray vision, eh, Doc?

Paisley Seymour
Los Angeles, Calif.

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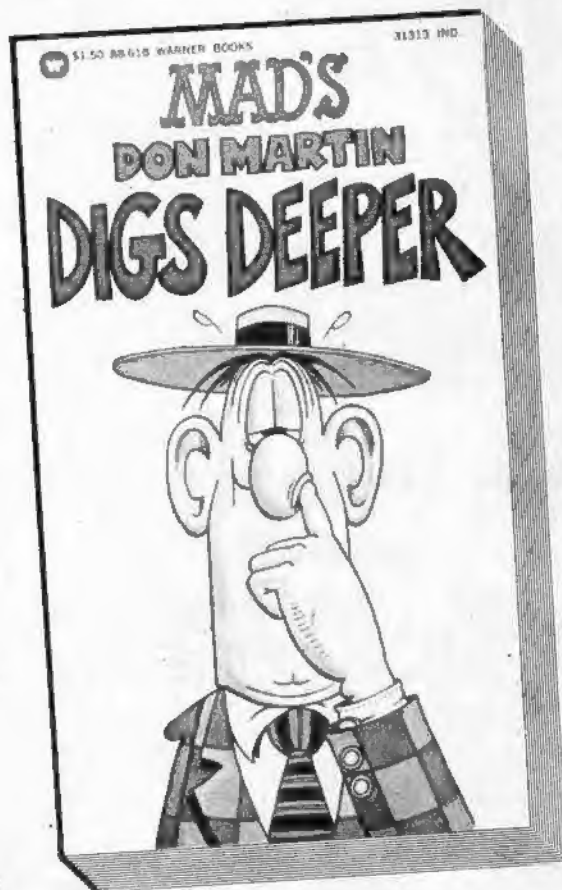
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BREAKING THE HOBBIT DEPT.

The most dedicated cult these days is the one that worships a group of travelers who lived thousands of years ago in a place called Middle Earth. We're talking about the Hobbits, Elves, Dwarfs and sundry fantastic beings who've been immortalized in J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord Of The Rings". For years, it has been a best-selling book, and now half of it's been seen as a movie, with the second half coming soon. What's left for Frodo and his friends? What else? A "Musical"! So sing along with MAD as we now present:

THE THE MAD

* Many years ago
begins our story—
Long before the time
of Bob Hope's birth,
Dwelt this group you see
in all their glory
In a far-out place
called "Middle Earth"!

Those were the Good Old Days
With all the good old ways—
A special time...when
Folks could be themselves;
When fighting wars was fun,
And good guys always won—
Of course, it helps...if
You believe in Elves!

Hills were filled with
Orcs and ugly creatures;
Poly-ester suits
they did-n't wear;
Had no Burger King's
or Arthur Treacher's
And they never heard
of Med-I-care!

Those were the Good Old Days
With all the good old ways—
A wond'rous time...when
Slaughter was the thing;
When countless thous-ands died
Throughout the count-ry-side
And all because...of
Just one lousy ring!

* Sung to the tune of "Those Were The Days"

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

Frodo Baggins of the
Shire... I am Gandalf!
I hear that you possess
the One Great Ring
that makes the one who
wears it INVISIBLE!

What
makes
you
say
that?

Just
call
it
a
lucky
guess!

Okay!
I DO
possess
the
ring!
So
what?!

I want you to take a long
journey, fraught with danger
and hardship, in order to
DESTROY the Ring to keep it
from the evil "Dark Lord"!

What happens if I keep it??

You will have great
power, you will gain
absolute control over
everyone, and you
will rule the world!

And if I destroy it??

You'll be the same
"nothing" Hobbit
you always were!

I'll
keep
it!

I don't think
I put that
quite right!



RING AND I

"LORD OF THE RINGS" MUSICAL

No one ever talked
about infla-tion,
Or a tanker split-
ting up at sea;
Never heard of strikes
or arbltra-tion,
Didn't know from
Donny or Marie!

Those were the Good Old Days
With all the good old ways—
A dandy time...for
Killing ancient foes—
With bodles stacked so high
That every pas-ser-by
Was mighty glad...that
He could hold his nose!

Nights were often cold
and dark and windy;
Still we thought our way
of life was swell;
Never had to sit through
Mork and Mindy,
Didn't have to
listen to Cosell!

Those were the Good Old Days
With all the good old ways—
A groovy time...of
Butch-er-y and mirth;
Now that we've filled you in,
Our tale can now be-gin
Of what went on...back
Here in Middle Earth!



WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

Mr. Frodo...
we've never
journeyed
outside the
Shire before!

The
people
are
taller!

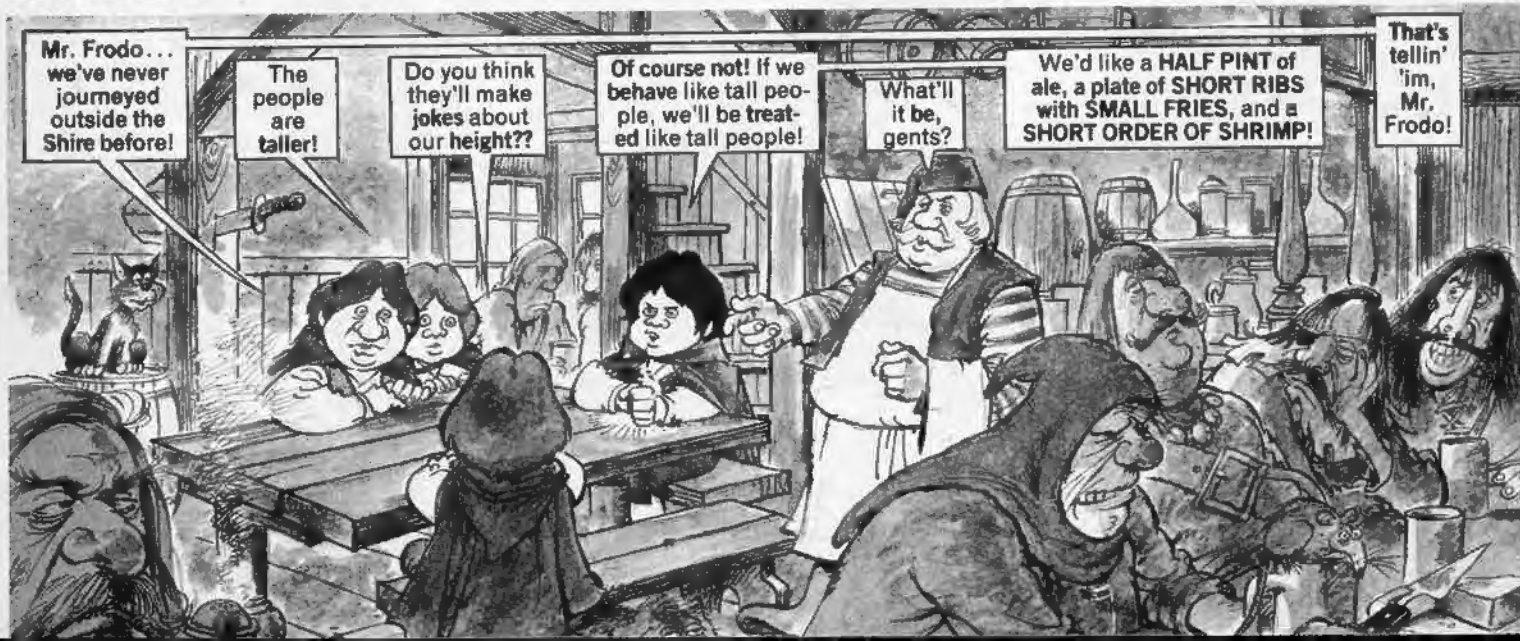
Do you think
they'll make
jokes about
our height??

Of course not! If we
behave like tall peo-
ple, we'll be treat-
ed like tall people!

What'll
it be,
gents?

We'd like a HALF PINT of
ale, a plate of SHORT RIBS
with SMALL FRIES, and a
SHORT ORDER OF SHRIMP!

That's
tellin'
'im,
Mr.
Frodo!



Sam, I can feel the presence of the evil Black Riders! They must know about the Ring!

I'll fake them out by singing a typical happy Hobbit folk song!

"We are Hob-bits just getting some air—
Hear the hap-py song that we sing—
Laughing at life, and devil-may-care—
So no one will know we've got a hot Ring!"

You're really a big help, Sam!

Where am I? Who are you?

From the attack of the Black Riders?

We are the Beautiful People of Middle Earth! You're recovering from a terrifying experience you suffered on the road!

No... from the horrible baritone of Sam's!

* Sung to the tune of "Scarborough Fair"

I called this meeting so this Hobbit can explain why he's here!

Great! I just love small talk!

Yeah! Let's hear him say a little something!

I've HAD it down to here with "short" jokes!

* I'm...not...some... kind...of...pygmy, Or a midget out on a fling! I've...got...clout... and...I think...You better dig me! I'm Frodo...and... I'VE GOT THE RING!

I've got the Ring the Bad Guys haven't got! I've got the Ring which puts me in a tough spot! I've got the Ring— without it, there's no plot! I've got the Ring! I've got the Ring!

* Sung to the tune of "I Write The Songs"

I've got the Ring that makes the Dark Lord sweat! I've got the Ring and I'm not through with it yet! I've got the Ring—the last one of the set! I've got the Ring! I've got the Ring!

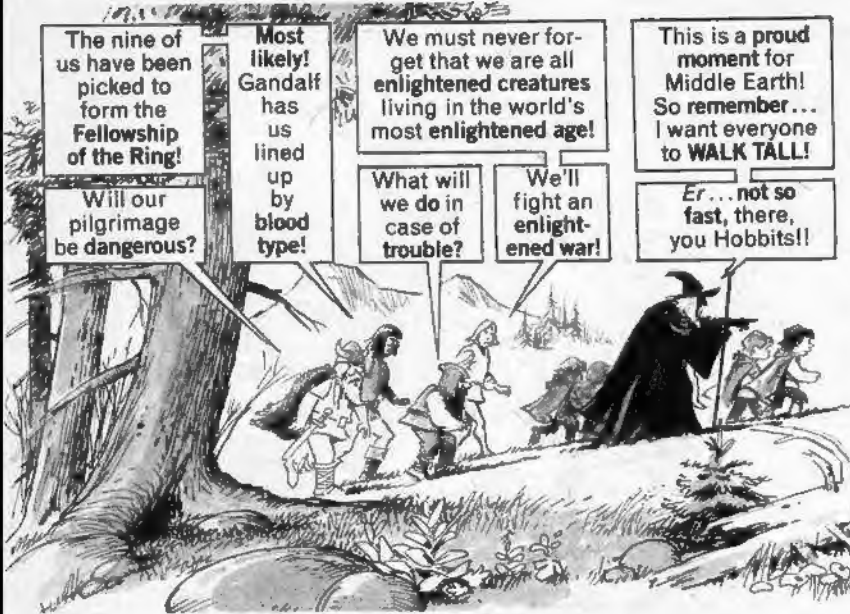
I've got the Ring that's got the world up-tight! I've got the Ring so no more jokes 'bout my height! I've got the Ring—and, man, it's out-of-sight! I've got the Ring! I've got the Ring!

I am Frodo—and I'VE GOT THE RING!

Bad news, Aragorn! I've just met with Middle Earth's Chief Wizard, Saruman! He tells me the bookies have made "Evil" a 6½-point favorite over "Good"!

What's so bad about that!?

Saruman is betting everything he's got on "Evil"!



The nine of us have been picked to form the Fellowship of the Ring!

Will our pilgrimage be dangerous?

Most likely! Gandalf has us lined up by blood type!

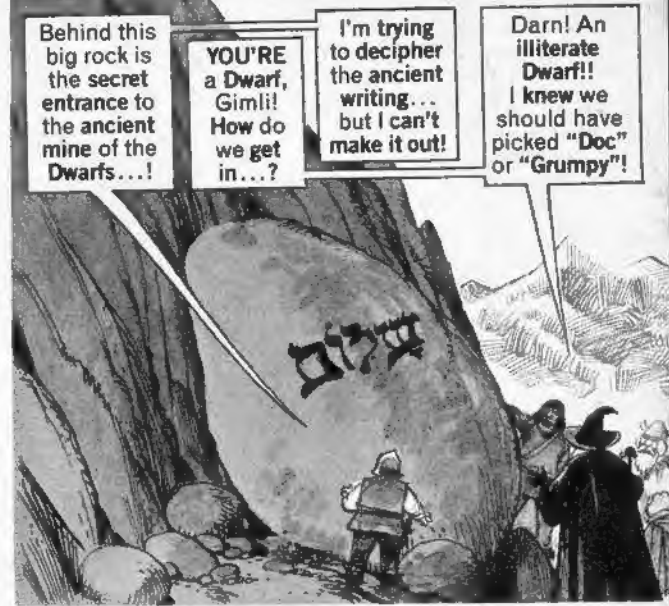
We must never forget that we are all enlightened creatures living in the world's most enlightened age!

What will we do in case of trouble?

We'll fight an enlightened war!

This is a proud moment for Middle Earth! So remember... I want everyone to WALK TALL!

Er... not so fast, there, you Hobbits!



Behind this big rock is the secret entrance to the ancient mine of the Dwarfs...!

YOU'RE a Dwarf, Gimli! How do we get in...?

I'm trying to decipher the ancient writing... but I can't make it out!

Darn! An illiterate Dwarf!! I knew we should have picked "Doc" or "Grumpy"!



Wait...! I think I can make it out!

Okay, what does it say?

"Gentlemen will not be admitted without jackets"!



Look...! the hideous Balrog is attacking Gandalf!

Gimli, exactly what does "Balrog" mean in the ancient Dwarf tongue?

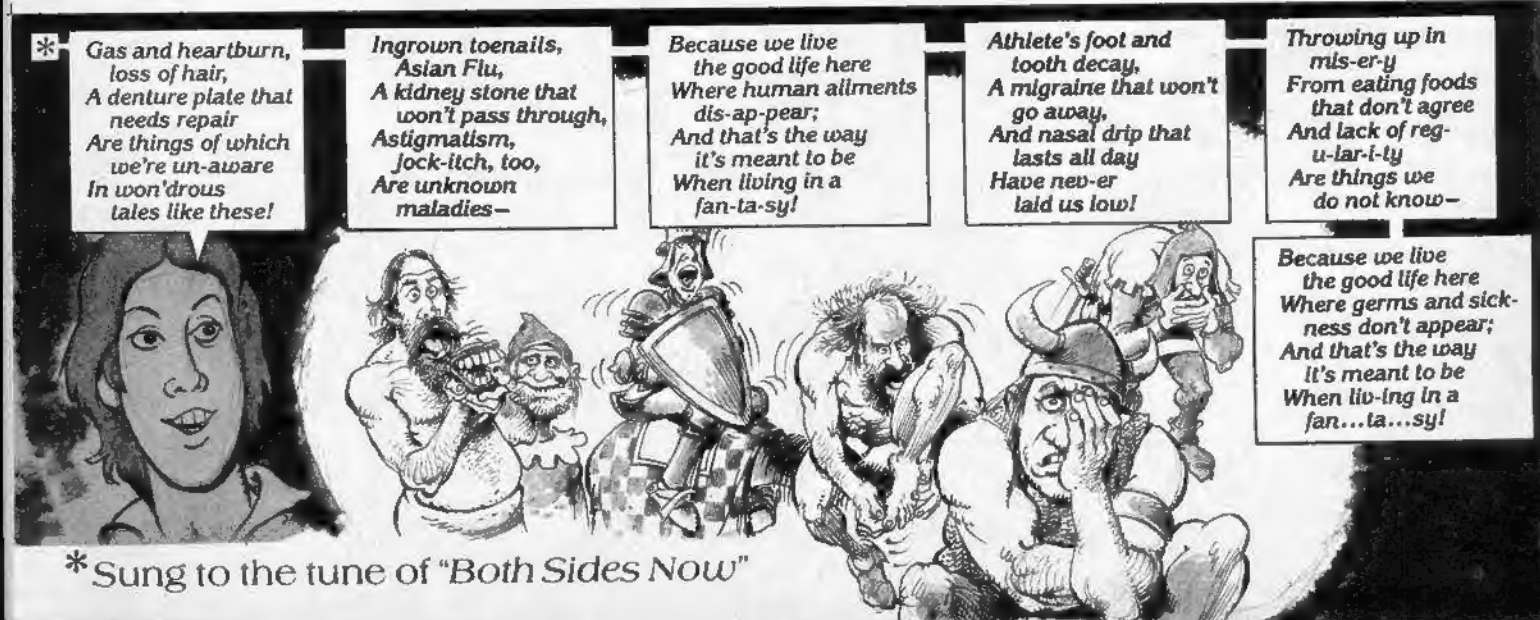
"Bouncer"! I WARNED Gandalf he wasn't dressed correctly!



Legolas...you Elves are amazing! You live for hundreds of years, you don't show your age, and you never get sick! How come?

It's tradition! The tradition of Elves?

No, the tradition of Great Romantic Epics...as I will now explain in this beautiful Elf ballad...



*

Gas and heartburn, loss of hair, A denture plate that needs repair Are things of which we're un-aware In won'drous tales like these!

Ingrown toenails, Asian Flu, A kidney stone that won't pass through, Astigmatism, Jock-itch, too, Are unknown maladies—

Because we live the good life here Where human ailments dis-ap-pear; And that's the way it's meant to be When living in a fan-ta-sy!

Athlete's foot and tooth decay, A migraine that won't go away, And nasal drip that lasts all day Have nev-er laid us low!

Throwing up in mls-er-y From eating foods that don't agree And lack of reg-u-lar-i-ty Are things we do not know—

Because we live the good life here Where germs and sick-ness don't appear; And that's the way it's meant to be When liv-ing in a fan...ta...sy!

* Sung to the tune of "Both Sides Now"

900 Orcs are attacking!

There are 9 of us! That makes the odds 100-to-1! I'm very upset about it!

Me too! I never like easy battles!

* This is the fun-time of our lives When gruesome Orcs we are destroying!

We run them through with swords and knives, Though cleaning up can be annoying!

I'm keeping count of those I slay here! I'm pretty sure it's sixty-two!

Gee, I wish forever I could stay here! Eleven more... and I'm ahead of you!

I real-ly love the groovy sound Each time they crumple with a thud here!

I think we'd better stand our ground— It's get-ting slipp'ry in the blood here!

I've got a stroke that's real-ly rif-ty! But now my arms they sort of ache!

By my count, we've killed two hundred flf-ty! Just seventeen more and we can take a break!

There's hard-ly one that's left alive and now my heart is filled with sor-fow!

I'd hoped a coup-le would survive so we could have more fun tomor-row!

* Sung to the tune of "You Are The Sunshine Of My Life"

I never though we'd be captured by Orcs! I wonder why we've been taken alive??

Then how come we're being kicked, beaten and dragged?!

They think we're GODS, Merry!!

The Orcs are ATHEISTS!

Gee!! We've been saved by a walking, talking tree!

Not by just ANY talking, walking tree! I'm "Tree-beard"! And if you think YOUR life is tough, it's time you heard about mine!

* You learn the truth when you're a tree That life's one long cat-as-tro-phe, With squir-rels running down your trunk And dropping nuts and other junk.

When caterpillars pick you clean And locusts pull the same routine, And dogs that you can't keep away Come use you as their john each day.

* Sung to the tune of "At Seventeen"



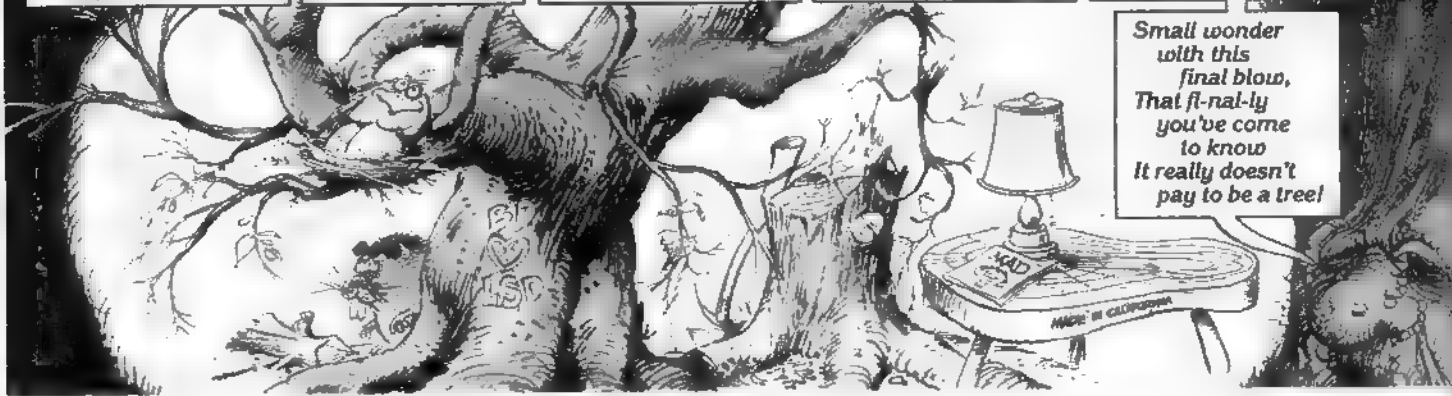
You're filled with birds
in scratchy nests,
With ants and bugs
and other pests,
And human flinks who
leave their mark
And carve in-i-tials
in your bark.

Then lightning
strikes you
from the blue
And splits
whatever's
left of you—
It really doesn't
pay to be a tree!

You stand around
in hail and steel,
In freezing cold
and blazing heat,
And later on you
lose your sap.
Your insides rot,
your branches snap.

A woodsman gives
you forty whacks
And amputates you
with his ax
Until you're just
a rotting stump.
And, boy, you're
feeling like a chump.

By then, of course,
you're mostly died;
What's left of you
is pet-ri-fied;
This kind of treatment
you don't need;
You wish that you'd
been born a weed.



We're all alone,
Sam! Now it's
just you and I
against the vast
forces of the
Dark Lord! Let's
hope they don't
find out I've
got the Ring!

I'll sing
another
typical hap-
py Hobbit
folksong to
keep your
spirits up,
Mr. Frodo!

* How many days can a Hob-bit go on
when he's hungry and tired and hurt?
Yes, how many days can he stay on his feet
till he stumbles and falls in the dirt?
And how many days will it be till they find
that he carries the Ring 'neath his shirt?
The answer, my friend...is...

Thanks a whole lot, Sam!!



Where is it, my
Precious? It's
gone! We want
it! Come back,
my Precious!
We loves you!

It's Gollum...the
creature that Bilbo,
your cousin, took the
Ring away from! The
same Ring you've got
beneath your shirt!

Who in heck
is that...?

Still Mr. Cool,
eh, Sam...?!



* I am Gollum, that is me;
And I'm hideous to see;
Also mean and low and trick-y!
Call me Middle Earth's main sick-y!
And the rot-ten-ness that's
planted in my brain
will remain—
Till I gets back my Precious!

My lovely Precious is the Ring,
Which I loved like anything
Till a thief came by to rob...It!
'Twas a double-crossing Hob-bit!
For eighty years I've crawled
here in slime—
marking time—
Till I gets back my Precious!

I've never heard of roll-on Ban,
So folks avoid me if they can;
I don't mind the lonely wait-ing,
'Cause I'm not much into dat-ing!
There's no one who's depraved
enough for me—
don't you see—
Till I gets back my Precious!



* Sung to the tune of "The Sound Of Silence"

We never should have trusted Gollum! He's lured us into the Cave of Shelob... the gigantic Spider! It's attacking! What are we going to DO, Mr. Frodo?!

Whaddya mean, "WE," Sam??

The last thing I remember was fighting Gollum on Mount Doom! What happened?

Gollum bit off your finger and fell with the Ring into the Cracks of Fire! Then Gandalf came with these Eagles to save us!

Gandalf! I thought you were KILLED by the Balrog!!

I was...! But then Sam started singing, and that's enough to waken the dead!

I'm through being a Wizard, Frodo!

Why? Because the Ring is destroyed and the Dark Lord is beaten and Middle Earth is saved?

No, not exactly! My reasons are far more personal! You see—

*

It's...pains you get all over from your bending down and talking to some Hobbit who is only three-foot-one; And it's...hanging out with Elves with all their grand and fancy manners till you think you're twice the clod you really are; And it's fighting off your boredom while some Dwarf tells endless stories of a rock his half-wit Uncle couldn't find; And I wonder if it's worth it, all this misery and hardship, and I really think it's time that I resigned!

It's the fight to save the people from the evil Force of Darkness and them telling you they'd like to try it out, And it's struggles to the death that you are waging when you know you should have bought that condominium last year; And it's looking for a reason why you've led this great adventure and discovering there's none that comes to mind; And I know that if I'm killed again, I'd lose my Wizard's pension and I really think it's time that I resigned!

* Sung to the tune of "Gentle On My Mind"

Does this mean that you won't be seen here in Middle Earth again, Gandalf?

In MIDDLE Earth—no! But in FUTURE Earth—yes! Centuries from now, I'll return in another form—as Obi ben Kenobi! And you, Frodo, will be Luke Skywalker! And instead of the Ring, we'll have the Force! Because—

* When...you're...out To hook an aud-i-ence And want to get... the best re-sult, Here's...how to Boost your fol-low-ing: Cre-ate a brand new cult!

And you can do it with a tale that's miraculous; A tale that's miraculous; Mir-ac-u-lous!

Hobbits, Elves and Ghostly Riders! Magic Spells and Giant Spiders! Evil Lords the world is fearing! Plus a Ring for dis-ap-pear-ing! Talking Trees and Giant Eagles! Everything but Flying Beagles! MIR-AC-U-LOUS!! MIR-AC-U-LOUS!!

* Sung to the tune of "The Age Of Aquarius"

There's always one person in every crowd who keeps the gang in stitches with his steady barrage of clever insults about everybody and everything under the sun. Chances are that you secretly admire the amateur Don Rickles in your group because of his quick wit, but you also hate him because you're one of the clods he keeps insulting. Well, it doesn't have to be that way, friends. You, too, can become a bubbling fountain of cruelty, taking pot shots at renowned people, places and things. To demonstrate the art of looking at the world with a perpetual sneer, we now offer the first (and only) volume of...



THE MAD NASTY BOOK

ARTIST: HARRY NORTH, ESQ.

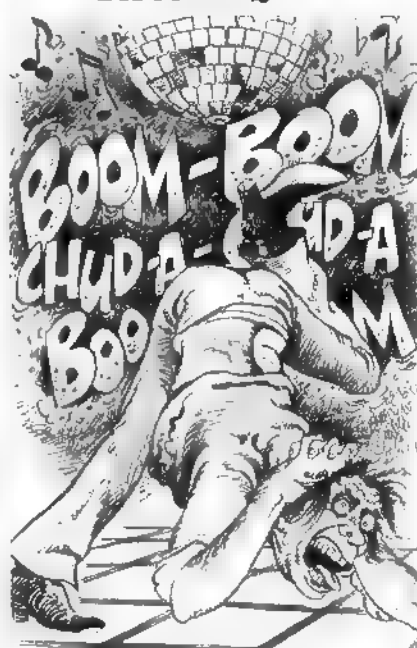
WRITER: TOM KOCH

FRANK SINATRA



- 1....keeps all those muscle men around because he needs help lacing up his corset.
- 2....is remembered by your parents as a crooner who sang on key as recently as 1958.
- 3....never drinks before lunch because he's never awake before lunch.
- 4....only claims to be Italian so his pals in the Mafia will accept him as an equal.
- 5....has such a violent temper that even his bodyguards hire bodyguards.

DISCOTHEQUES



- 1....are not hazardous to your health, assuming you've already lost your hearing and sanity somewhere else.
- 2....shine bright lights in your face so you'll never notice that they don't have live entertainment.
- 3....are really just hiding places for people who dress too ridiculously to be seen on the streets.
- 4....are the only entertainment spots that have their best entertainment in the parking lot.
- 5....are nice places to spend ten bucks listening to the same records you could hear at home for nothing.

DEBBIE BOONE



- 1....is a lot like her father, except that she weighs more.
- 2....will never become another Anita Bryant because she's not as good at expressing her prejudices.
- 3....is so overly pure and sweet that she was even rejected for membership in the Osmond family.
- 4....may be a descendant of Daniel Boone, who was never noted for his great singing voice either.
- 5....apparently is trying to make a lifetime career out of one hit song.

THE NATIONAL ENQUIRER



- 1....runs Jackie Onassis stories every week because there's never enough news about two-headed chickens to fill the paper.
- 2....provides entertainment for those who aren't quite bright enough to understand "Hee-Haw."
- 3....offers comfort to scholars who fear that modern civilization may be progressing too fast.
- 4....runs all the news that's fit to print—in a small box on Page 28.
- 5....will quote any psychic—except the ones who foresee coming lawsuits against the National Enquirer.

RONALD REAGAN



- 1....has his hair blackened at the same shop that varnishes Howard Cosell's toupee.
- 2....couldn't have played college football as he claims because football wasn't invented until 1869.
- 3....was lucky he had politics to fall back on when he flopped as a movie actor.
- 4....has one major qualification for President: He specializes in jobs that don't require previous experience.
- 5....had to give up sportscasting because he was never as good as Chris Schenkel or Alex Karras.

PUBLIC TELEVISION



- 1....keeps soliciting donations so it can stay on the air long enough to solicit more donations.
- 2....is the perfect channel to watch if you really dig long interviews with minor government bureaucrats.
- 3....exists chiefly to broadcast all of the dull programs that would be canceled if they were on a commercial network.
- 4....assumes that any drama is a classic if the actors are all so British that you can't understand them.
- 5....appeals to a wide range of viewers: those too young to know and those too old to care.

BARBARA WALTERS



- 1....may understand the news she reads, even though no one else can understand her when she reads it.
- 2....refuses to interview people prettier than herself, which invariably leaves her with Barbra Streisand and Fidel Castro.
- 3....would rather have been a Dallas Cowboys cheerleader, but her pom-poms weren't big enough.
- 4....is lucky she's not Richard Roundtree because that's a name she couldn't pronounce at all.
- 5....proves that anyone can become a TV star with enough perseverance and rudeness.

THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE



- 1....has to pay exorbitant salaries to its workers because people who can move that slowly don't come cheap.
- 2....hopes to finish delivering all of the Vietnam War draft notices by sometime next summer.
- 3....is so completely automated that one employee can now smash 10,000 packages a day.
- 4....is forced to keep raising its rates because the cost of losing mail has risen tremendously.
- 5....has just made it cheaper for you to deliver a two-ounce letter to New Zealand in person.

WALTER MONDALE



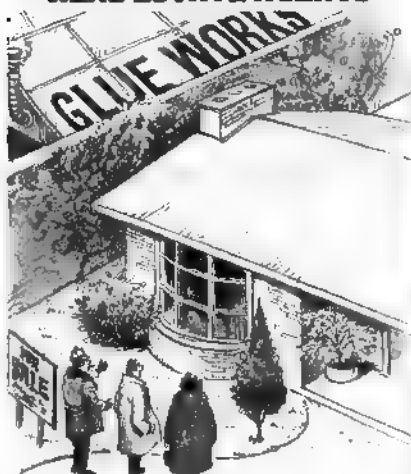
- 1....is trying to squelch rumors that he's been dead since 1977.
- 2....hopes to go down in history as our most memorable vice-president since Schuyler Colfax.
- 3....can't seem to stop trying out for the title role in "The Invisible Man."
- 4....is lucky that he's young enough to start a new and more glamorous career—like reading gas meters.
- 5....is best known for once getting his picture in the paper shaking hands with Amy Carter.

BILL WALTON



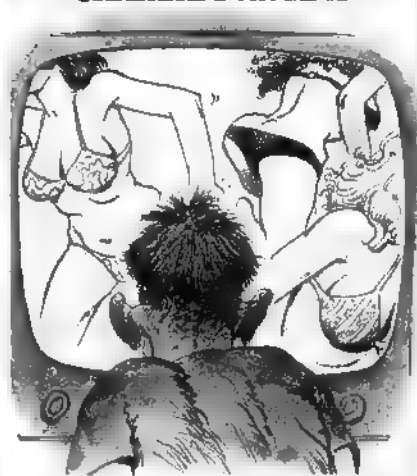
- 1.... is upset because he's too pale to play with the Harlem Globetrotters and too wacky to play with the Three Stooges.
- 2.... may have the best full season in N.B.A. history—if he ever plays one full season in the N.B.A.
- 3.... spends all of his time in the great outdoors, except for 320 days a year when he's in court filing lawsuits.
- 4.... is always auditioning for a part in the remake of "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest."
- 5.... is trying for a spot in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's tallest crybaby (or the world's last hippie).

REAL ESTATE AGENTS



- 1.... are usually people who were kicked out of the used car business for being too unethical.
- 2.... wouldn't tell a lie for a million dollars, but they'll say anything for \$89,500.
- 3.... will soon be the only people rich enough to buy the houses they're trying to sell.
- 4.... often take courses in law so they can learn how to keep out of jail.
- 5.... hope you're dumb enough to believe that any old house you buy will be worth \$10,000 more, once you give it a \$500 paint job.

"CHARLIE'S ANGELS"



- 1.... can change cast members each season without having it noticed because nobody ever looks at their faces.
- 2.... has added a whole new dimension to TV drama—shallowness.
- 3.... is the most realistic action show to hit television since Woody Woodpecker retired.
- 4.... is enjoyed by viewers who aren't smart enough to understand anything else on TV except the test pattern.
- 5.... uses scripts that were rejected for cheap porno movies because the plots were too unbelievable.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY



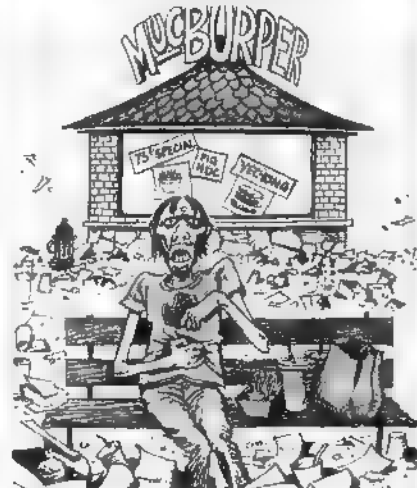
- 1.... still insists that the three main causes of lung cancer are flat feet, backgammon and gargling with Top Job.
- 2.... considers a scientific test to be inconclusive unless it kills everyone who takes it.
- 3.... hopes that enough kids will start smoking to make up for all the older smokers who are dropping dead.
- 4.... has warned the Surgeon General that telling everything he knows may be hazardous to his health.
- 5.... won't even concede that inhaling water causes drowning.

QUEEN ELIZABETH



- 1.... looks a lot better on her postage stamps than she does in person.
- 2.... may be a good speaker, but her voice is pitched so high that only dogs can hear it.
- 3.... wears those awful hats because she can't find any other way to get an audience to laugh.
- 4.... is living proof that any woman can land a good job if she's in the right place at the right time.
- 5.... will be chosen Best Dressed Woman of 1946, if they ever decide to give that award again.

FAST FOOD JOINTS



- 1.... have shown us it's possible to get indigestion and malnutrition at the same time.
- 2.... now offer warm lard in a total of 83 fascinating flavors.
- 3.... have to cut corners by serving lousy food so they can afford more TV commercials to sell it.
- 4.... are the only places that make you take a number and wait in line to be poisoned.
- 5.... serve everything wrapped in paper and plastic so you can follow the trail of litter to their nearest franchise.

THE CHICAGO CUBS



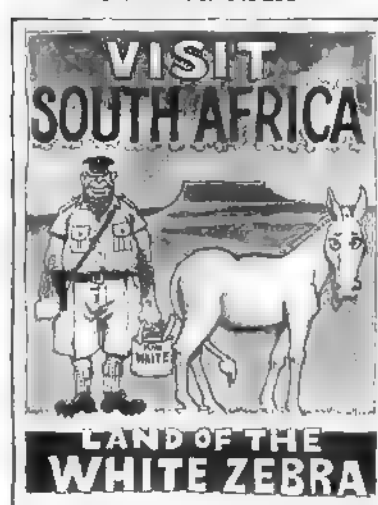
- 1....have three outfielders who think the game they're playing is volleyball.
- 2....might do better if they didn't insist on scheduling major league opponents.
- 3....play all their home games in the daytime because enraged fans aren't as likely to attack them.
- 4....haven't won a pennant in so long that they can't remember what they're trying to do.
- 5....have fielded a team every year since 1876, and some of the guys are beginning to show their age.

ILIE NASTASE



- 1....always gestures with his middle finger because he thinks it's rude to use the same one he picks his nose with.
- 2....is the only person in the world who can make Jimmy Connors seem like a gentleman.
- 3....somehow thinks he's psyching out an opponent when he's really just making a complete ass of himself.
- 4....is a fun guy to have around, assuming you enjoy being screamed at in Roumanian.
- 5....refuses to cut his hair shorter because he knows it would cause him to look even more like Charley Callas.

SOUTH AFRICA



- 1....is a terrible place to visit, but you wouldn't want to live there.
- 2....is a shopper's paradise, assuming the main things you're shopping for are Krugerrands and slaves.
- 3....is one of the few countries with two national languages, and the only country that can't talk sense in either of them.
- 4....doesn't enter the Olympics because its athletes only run fast when they're waving guns and chasing black people.
- 5....is looking forward to the year 2000 so it can start the 19th Century again.

IDI AMIN



- 1....wears so much gold braid on his cap that it's pressed down and mashed his brain.
- 2....wouldn't mind being named Homicidal Maniac Of The Year if they'd give him a medal to go with the title.
- 3....shows great form on the palace basketball court, now that the guy who used to guard him has been executed.
- 4....forced everyone out of Uganda who is smarter than he is, which left the country with a population of 14.
- 5....is unfairly called insane when he's really just a sadistic, paranoid mental deficient.

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS



- 1....are convinced that half the fun of having a detour is springing it on you without warning.
- 2....love to open a new stretch of road before a single gasoline station has been built anywhere near it.
- 3....take half your money in gas tax so they can build toll roads that will take the rest of your money.
- 4....save all of their big construction jobs for mid-summer so they can inconvenience more tourists.
- 5....send out travel brochures that omit every unpleasant fact about the area that might keep you from coming.

JOHN TRAVOLTA



- 1....has an amazing natural talent for playing dumb, inarticulate high school drop-outs.
- 2....only seems to have a sexy walk because he wears bed springs inside his shoes.
- 3....may be the biggest new star to hit Hollywood since Frankie Avalon.
- 4....majored in mumbling at the Marlon Brando School of Speech.
- 5....had his chin dimpled by the same plastic surgeon who brought fame to Kirk Douglas.

SCHLOCK WATCH DEPT.

Alcoholism and narcotics have been given reams of publicity by the mass media, but the worst addiction of all . . . "TV-A" . . . "Television Addiction" . . . has been ignored. In fact, the media has acted as if "TV-A" doesn't exist, even though it affects almost every family in America. So join us now as we tear away the curtain of secrecy and take a MAD look at "TV-A" in this special version of—



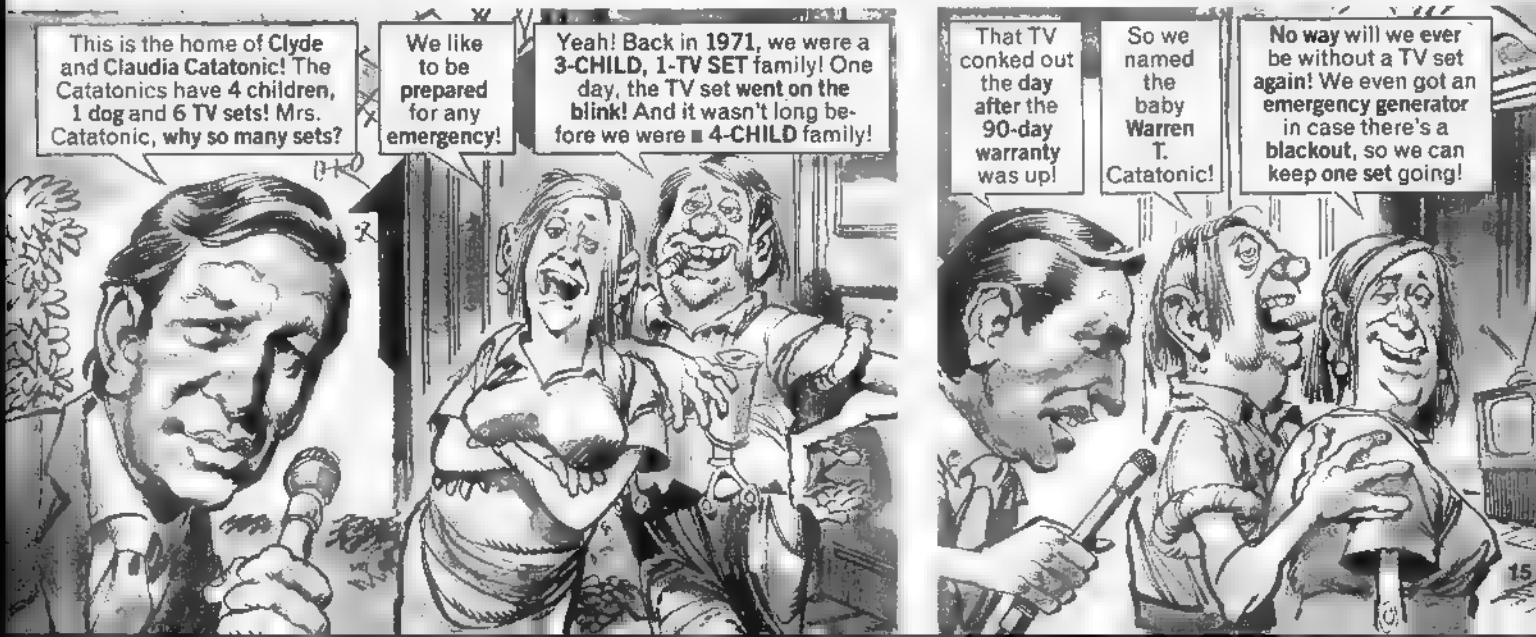
SIXTY* SECONDS

*WHICH IS ABOUT ALL THE
TIME THIS ARTICLE DESERVES



ARTIST: JACK DAVIS

WRITER: LOU SILVERSTONE



This is the home of Clyde and Claudia Catatonic! The Catatonics have 4 children, 1 dog and 6 TV sets! Mrs. Catatonic, why so many sets?

We like to be prepared for any emergency!

Yeah! Back in 1971, we were a 3-CHILD, 1-TV SET family! One day, the TV set went on the blink! And it wasn't long before we were a 4-CHILD family!

That TV conked out the day after the 90-day warranty was up!

So we named the baby Warren T. Catatonic!

No way will we ever be without a TV set again! We even got an emergency generator in case there's a blackout, so we can keep one set going!

Not having a TV was one of the worst experiences of my life! What's a person to do?

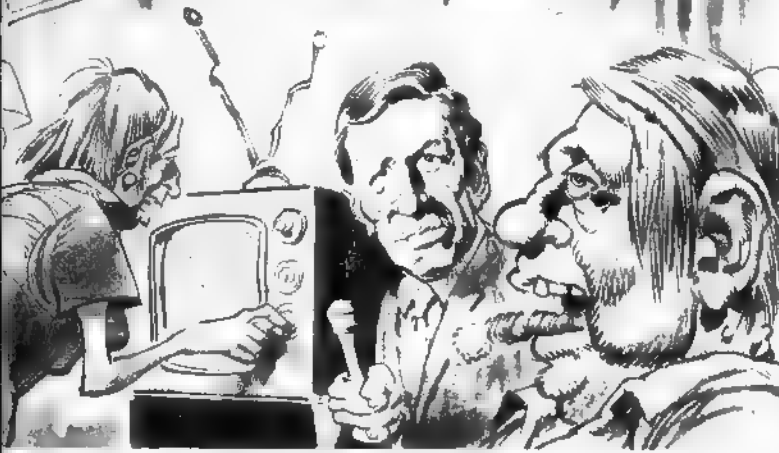
Couldn't you Talk...?

About WHAT? The only thing we ever talk about is TV shows!!

Mommy! I've got some good news, and some bad news! First, the good news: The dog was hit by a car!

What's the bad news?

I told the Vet to fix him up with BIONIC PARTS!! now, I'll have the only Bionic Dog in Boondock!!



Don't your children know that that tricky bionic stuff was all done with slow-motion cameras... and double-exposures???

So THAT's how they did it!?! Well, I'll be durned!

I wish I'd known that before I tried to lift up our car... and ruptured myself!

Aren't you concerned about the amount of time your kids spend watching TV?

Sure! I even took 'em to a ball game to get 'em away from the TV set!

And didn't they enjoy being in the stadium, watching the game LIVE??

Nahhh! All they did was watch the Instant Replays on the giant TV screen! And the little fella cried because there were NO COMMERCIALS!



Well... I see at least ONE of your children is interested in something else besides TV! Does she want to be a Ballet Dancer?

WHAT Ballet? She's trying to turn into WONDER WOMAN!

This is Boondock's Donny & Marie Junior High School, and we're here to talk with some of the Teachers and Students about TV-viewing and how it affects school—

Uh—er... pardon me, Sir... but WHY are you dressed like that?

I'm a Reading Teacher, and those idiots won't LISTEN to me unless I look like this!



It's embarrassing... a grown man with a Master's degree, parading around like a goldarn chicken! And THEN those morons will only listen to me for four minutes because, thanks to TV, that's the length of their attention span!

Hey, Man, what are YOU complaining about? You should try teaching MATH!! I've got to contort myself into the shapes of the numbers!! You think it's EASY... trying to make yourself into a number THREE??!

This is Mr. Gather, from MAD Magazine!

What's a magazine?

I know!! That's what my Father looks in, to see what's on TV!

This is Coach Winsocki! Coach, have your players learned anything from watching the Pros play on TV?

Sure! They've learned how to dance around in the end zone, and spike the ball! Too bad they haven't learned how to score!

They're also great at shouting, "We're Number One!"... and they can say, "I use Brut!" with a phony Southern accent! But I wish they'd pick up something useful, like a little violence!

This is a "TV-A Clinic" run by Dr. Welby Marcus, one of the nation's leading experts on TV-Addiction! Dr. Marcus, what steps have you taken to find a cure for "TV-A"?

Well, I limit myself to four hours of TV-viewing a day, but believe me, it's not easy!

I meant — what steps have you taken to cure others?

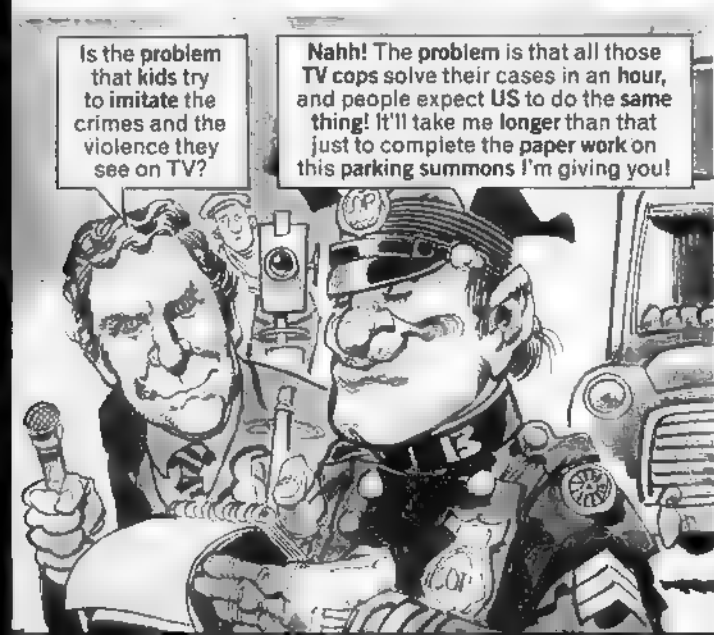
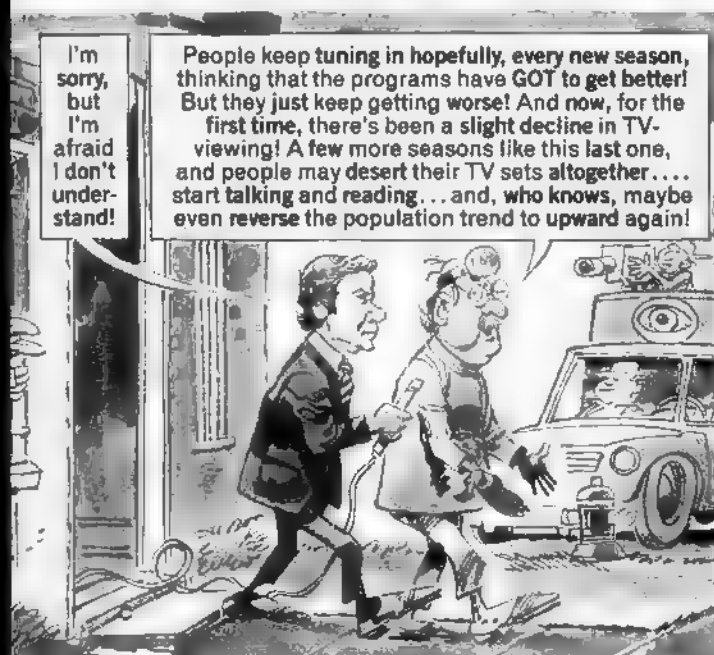
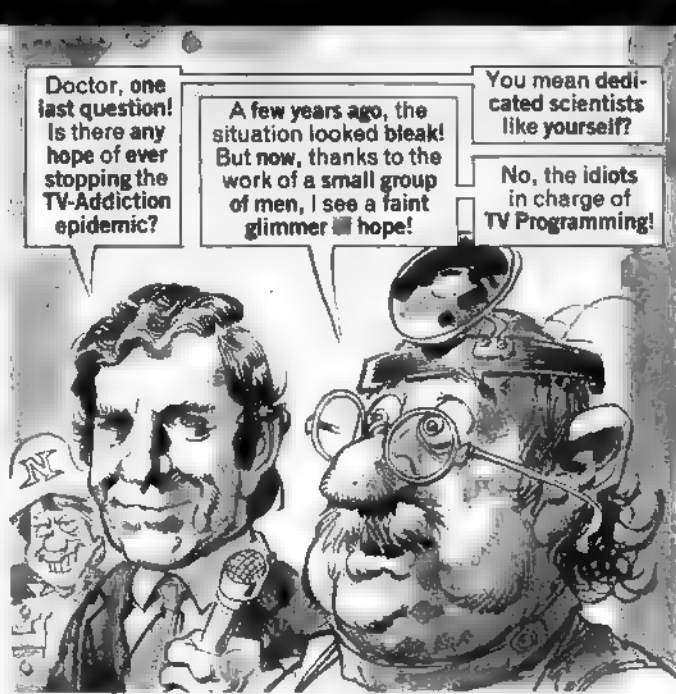
Oh! We were conducting some meaningful experiments, exposing lab animals to TV for 24 hours a day, but the ASPCA made us stop! They said it was cruel and inhumane treatment!

Doctor... may we see some of your patients?

Okay... but let me warn you! It's not a pretty sight! Any of your readers who may be a little bit squeamish better skip the next few panels!

We're attempting to cure THIS poor devil by "cold turkey"! He's locked in there without a TV set!

Please! I have to see TV! Anything? "Donny & Marie"! A laxative commercial! The CBS eye! Just turn on a set and turn it off again, and le'me watch the little white dot disappear! Help!!



GIVIN' 'EM A RIBBIN' DEPT.

Why restrict the awarding of medals to the military? After all, Civilians perform heroic acts while fighting life's daily battles as well! Let's recognize them with

THIS ISSUE'S PROPOSED MAD MEDALS

TO BE PRESENTED TO DESERVING PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES

**THE BROKEN HOCKEY
STICK AWARD**



Awarded to those Athletes who bravely display competitive ferociousness and brutality by mutilating and otherwise injuring opponents, thus insuring the thrills necessary to fill stands with screaming bloodthirsty sadistic fans.

**THE BIG SELL
OUT CITATION**



For fearlessly appearing in ads aimed at worshipping young fans, endorsing products—regardless of whether they are good, bad, or downright harmful—thereby aiding our economy in general, and medal recipient's in particular.

**THE FLAPPING
MOUTH MEDAL**



For gallantly pretending viciousness and hostility toward opponents at the weigh-ins in order to create interest and insure huge gate receipts . . . and then turning into a perfectly decent non-belligerent gentleman in the ring.

**THE RAUCOUS
RHUBARB AWARD**

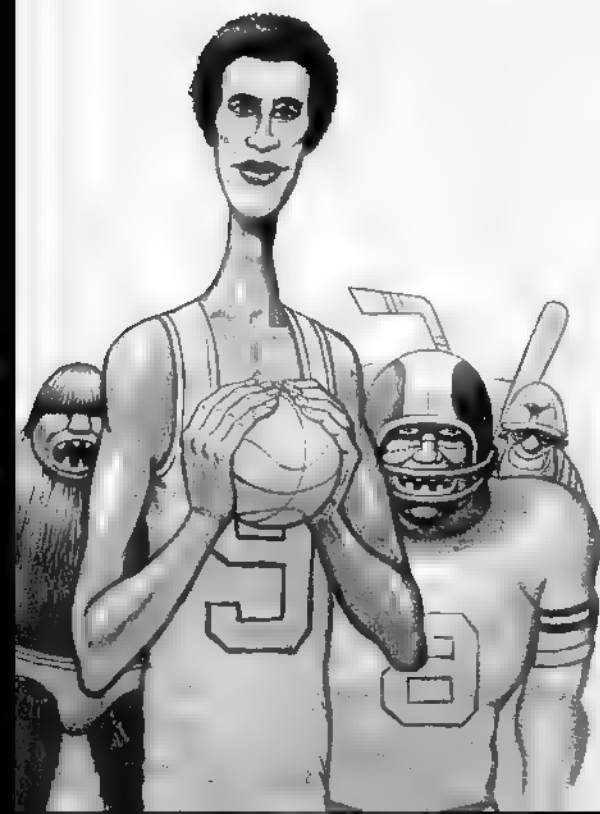


For brilliant tactical achievement in the art of acting indignant, thereby inducing umpires and referees into calling fouls and penalties against opposing team members, when actually medal recipient is the real culprit.

**THE TRUE-BLUE
TEAMMATE MEDAL**



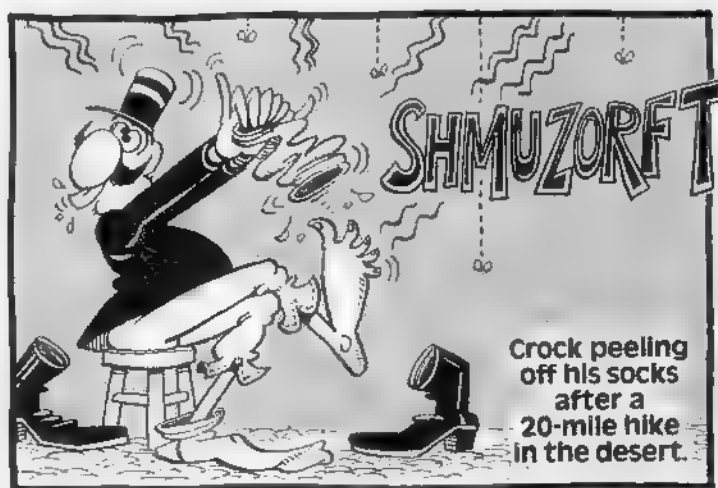
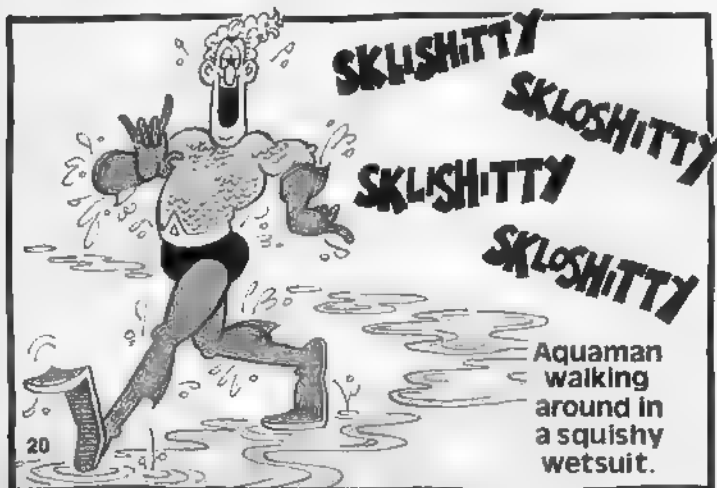
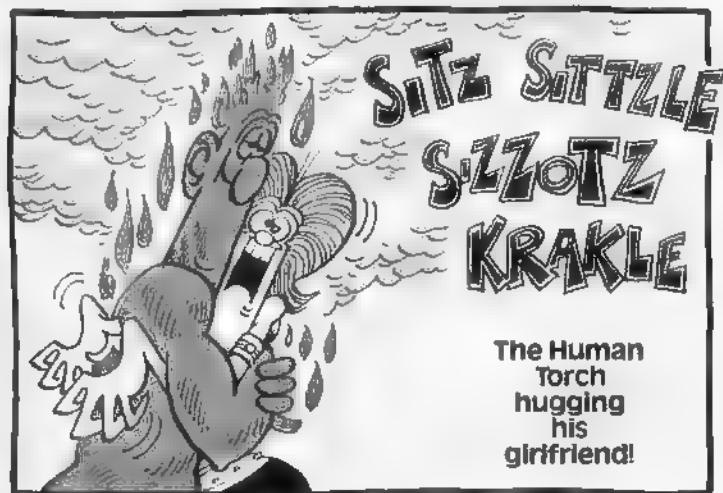
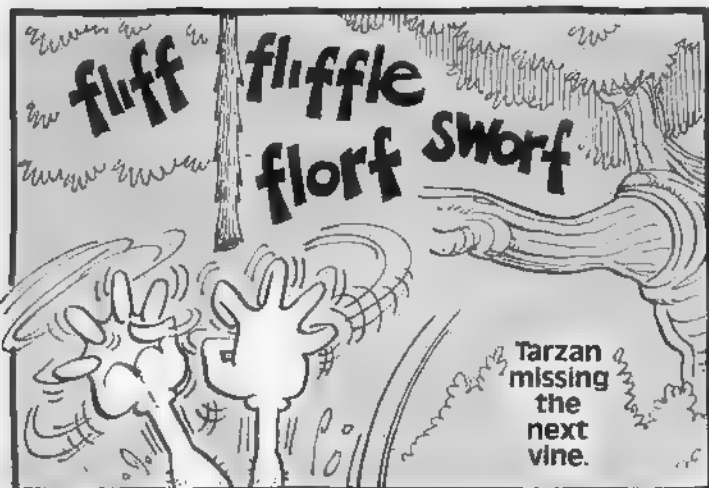
For a heroic performance, showing love and loyalty to hometown team fans . . . while at the same time suffering under the psychological strain of secretly negotiating to be traded for the sole purpose of receiving a lot more money.



DON MARTIN'S GUIDE TO SOME VERY OBSCURE

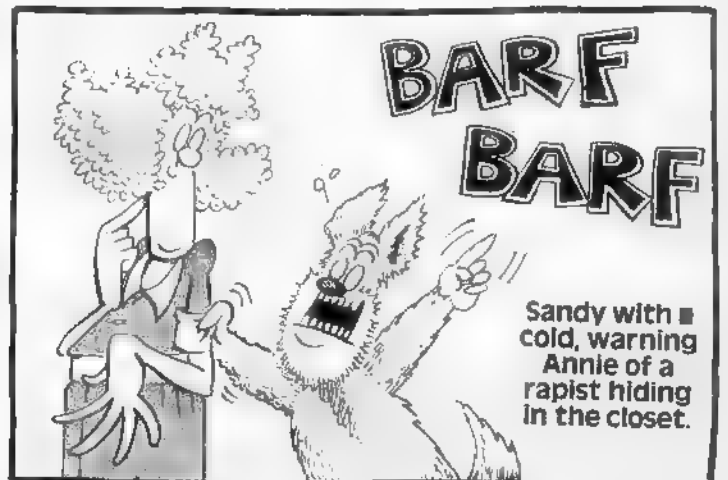
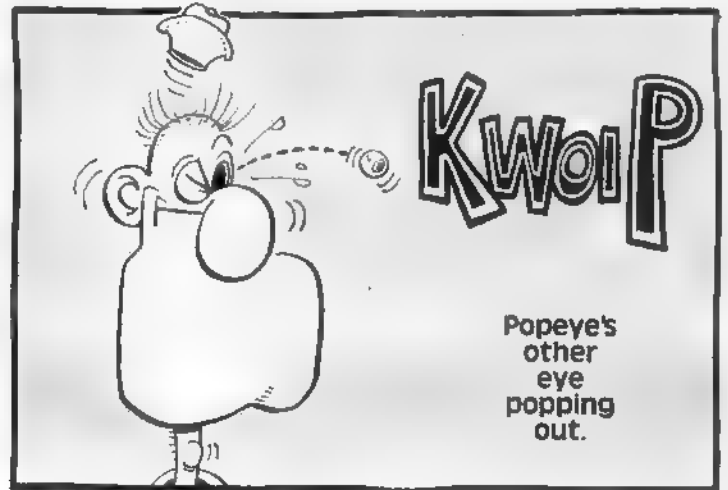
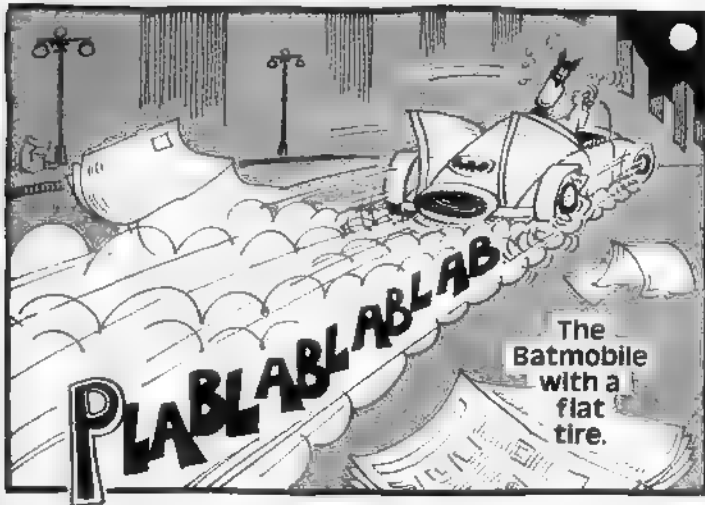
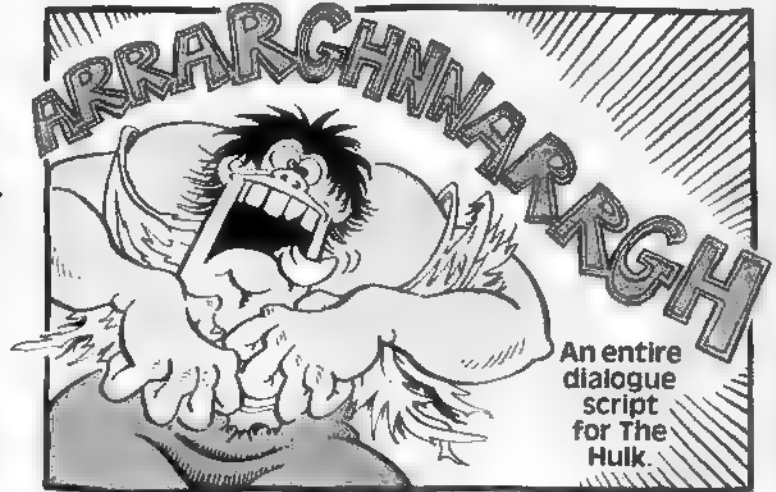
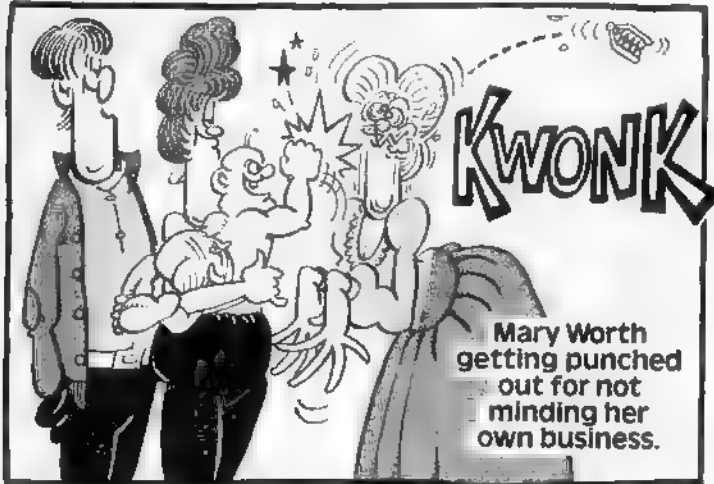
COMICS

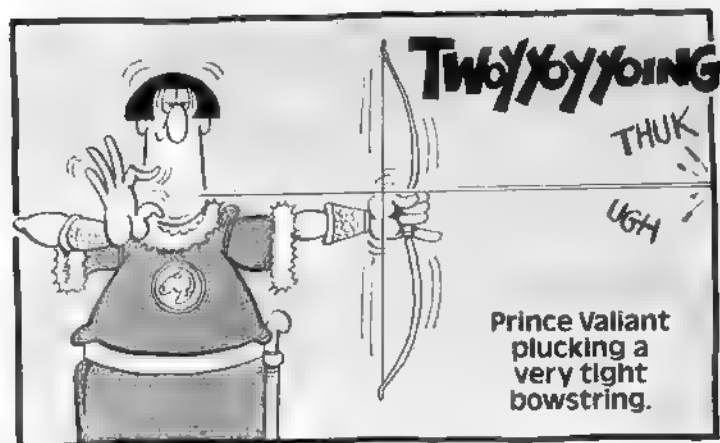
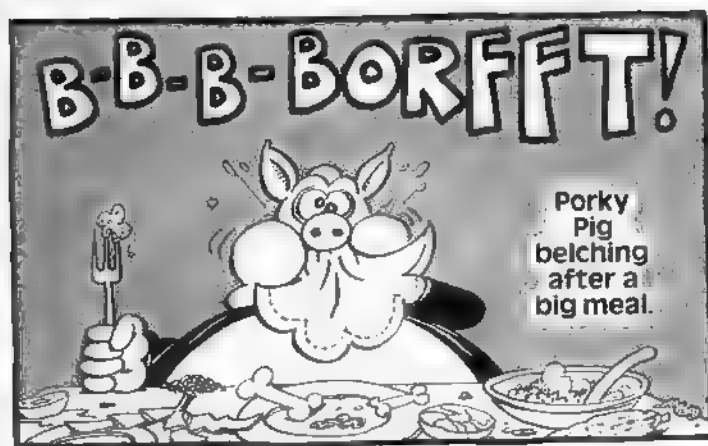
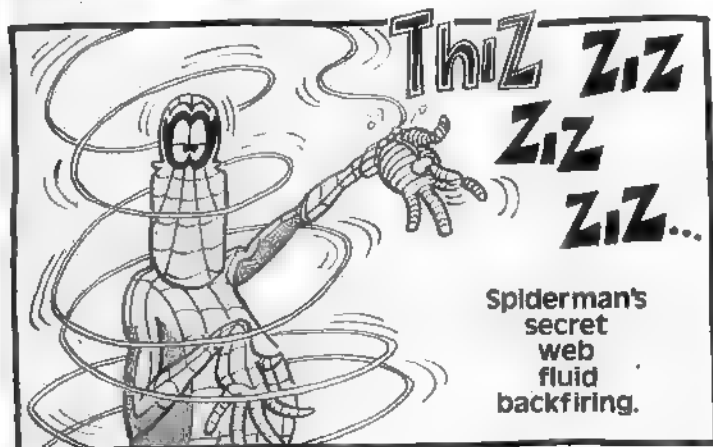
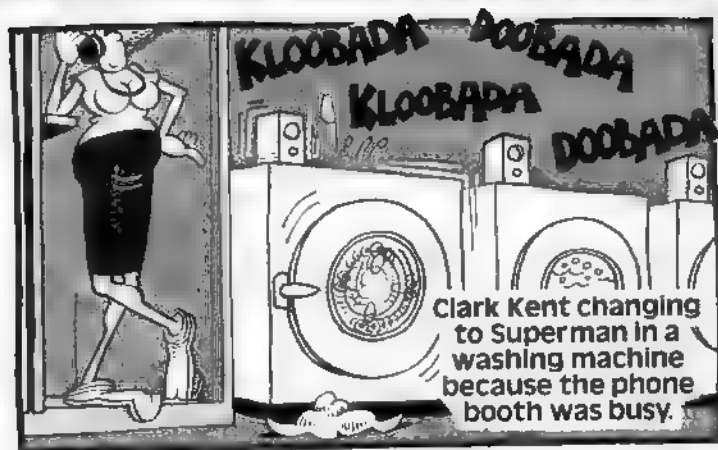
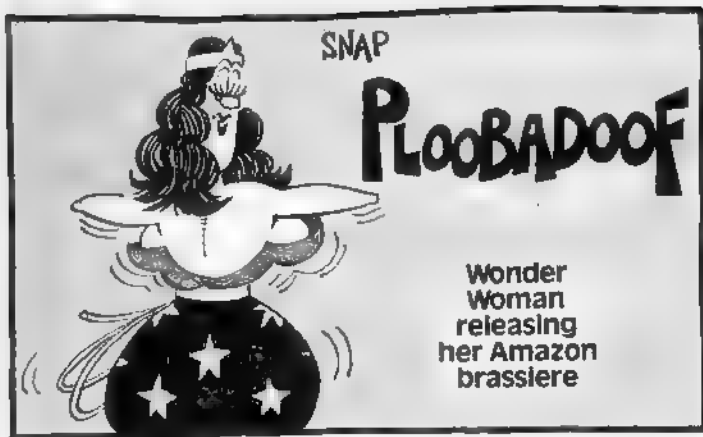
ARTIST: DON MARTIN

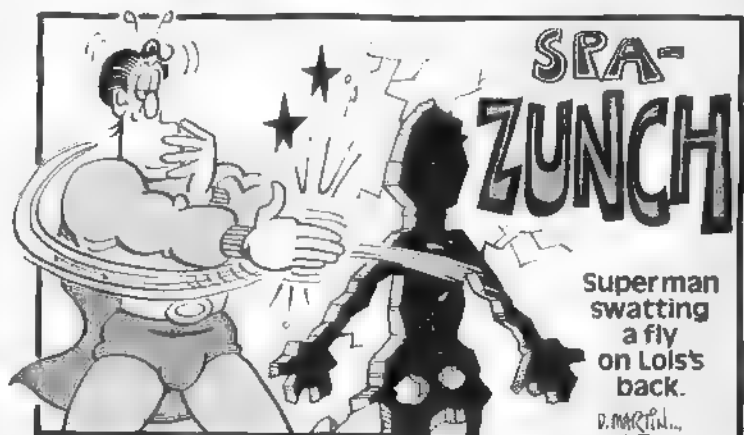
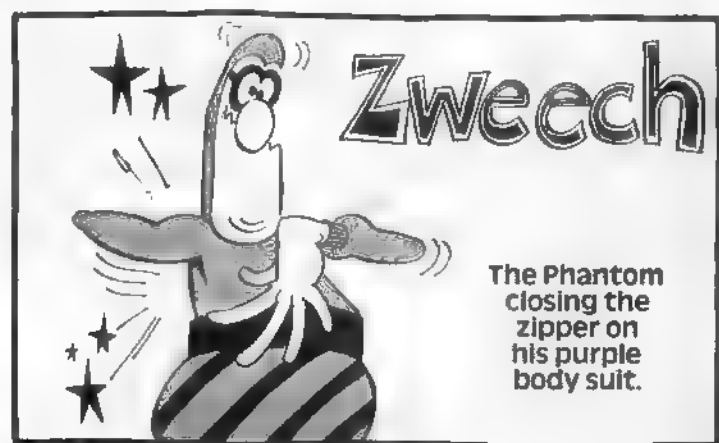
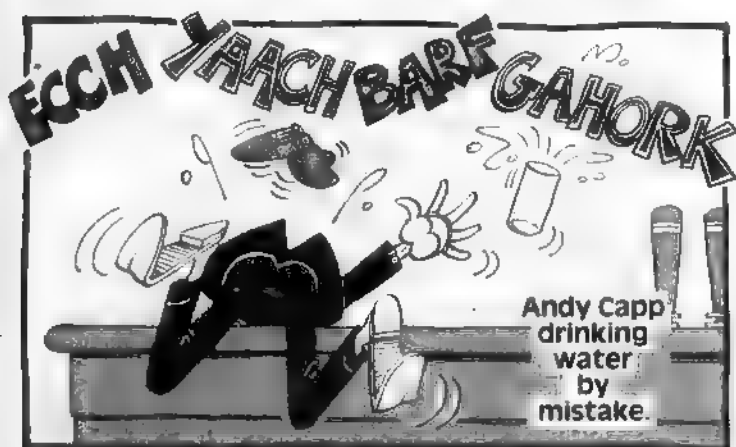
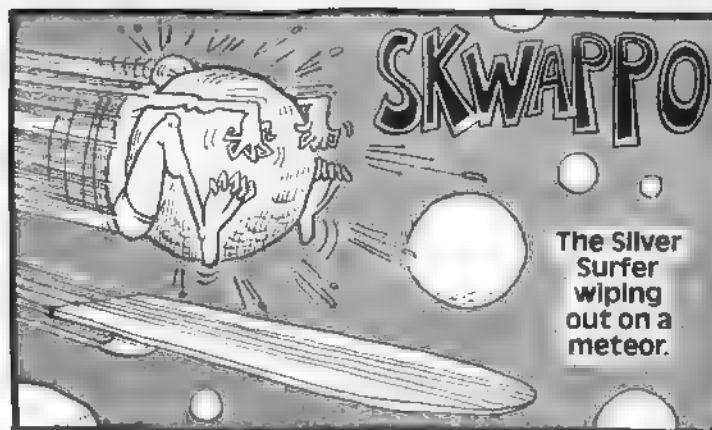


SOUND EFFECTS

WRITER: DON EDWING







APPLYING THE BREAK DEPT.

For every woman there comes a day when she must write a letter ending the relationship with the guy who no longer is the man of her dreams. Such a missive is called a "Dear John" letter,

MAD'S ALL INCLUSI

"Dear John Letter"



Dear John:

I don't know quite how to tell you this, but

_____^①_____. I think I first knew
it _____^②_____, _____^③_____, and I saw you

_____^④_____. I'm

sure you're _____^⑤_____ enough to see

_____^⑥_____.

I'm returning _____^⑦_____, but I'm
holding on to _____^⑧_____ as a keepsake.

I want you to know that I'll _____^⑨_____
your _____^⑩_____.

_____^⑪_____.

Wilma

1

our romance is over
our affair is dead
I'm entering a convent
I loathe you
our horoscopes clash
you're a sickie
you need to bathe more
I'm a streetwalker
your nostrils offend me
there's a contract out for you
you're a schmuck
I'm in love with your sister

5

my best friend
my father
E.F. Hutton
my whoopee cushion
my spinach soufflé
Bert and Ernie
my avocado plant
my penpal in Ghana
my Franklin Mint Collection
the Oakland front four
my Billy Carter statue
that crazed monk

9

your photo
those oil stocks
my virginity
your neighbor Ralph
the results of the blood-test
your left ear
your suicide note
your mother
my sanity
your ant colony
your police record
Murray's leotards



and MAD would like to assist all women who have the unpleasant job of writing one. Here it is:
Simply fill in the numbered blanks from the corresponding numbered lists ... and you'll have ...

VE DO-IT-YOURSELF

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

2

that night
last year
skinny-dipping
tripping on tangerine seeds
last Arbor day
when you shackled me
when I threw up
when I saw that shrunken head
when your dwarf bit me
reciting "Gunga Din"
swapping tennis shoes
when your sheepdog went berserk

3

in your pad
in your camper
outside Poughkeepsie
under the bus
in your closet
while eating enchilladas
with Reverend Moon
in drag
at the Hare Krishna prom
on the funny farm
in a trance
with the Mondales

4

make a pass at
insult
ignore
punch out
pour syrup over
carve your initials on
tear the clothes off
apply leeches to
render impotent
yank the toupee off
sit on
exercise

6

man
sensitive
open-minded
ashamed
stoned
gutless
scarred
Mongol
masochistic
senile
Republican
frostbitten

7

how miserable I've been
what a bore you are
your Datsun sucks
your acne is terminal
I've had a sex change
there is no Mid-East solution
we're first cousins
there is no Santa Claus
I'm allergic to your hamster
I dig sanitation men
that I'm bionic
that "The Gong Show" stinks

8

your ring
your love-letters
your Darth Vader poster
your pet rock
to the commune
those slides of Altoona
your dentures
to sleeping around
our matching Snoopy bibs
your Bicentennial truss
to Saturn
your bag of immies

10

always treasure
never forget
try to blot out
inform the I.R.S. about
always feel unclean about
never scoff openly at
make a movie based on
tell the "Enquirer" about
inform the asylum about
get nauseous thinking of
tell my priest about
be a lot better off without

11

friendship
senility
new life as a clone
Eskimo incarnation
capo Angelo
cocaine habit
passion for fieldmice
Jackie Mason imitations
embarrassing rash
eggplant fetish
screwing up World War II
hatred of Tampa

12

Fondly
Sincerely
Painfully
Eat your heart out
With disgust
With great relief
Up yours
Your undying enemy
Best to your frog Leonard
Now bug off
Good luck on your parole
Regards to your creepy family

If you're still in doubt as to whether to buy this air conditioner or not, just step outside into the hot street and see the difference!!

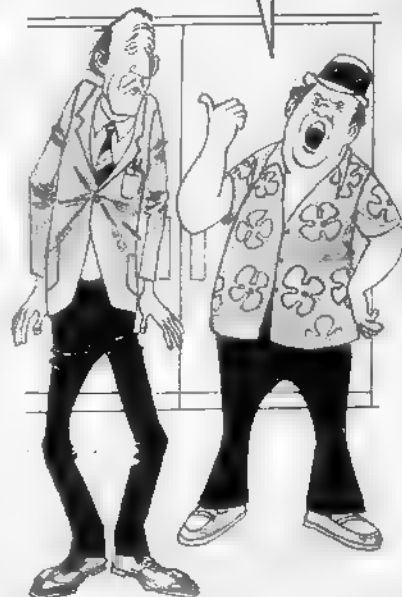


So...? Did you see the difference??

I'll say I did!! I decided not to buy it from you!



The store across the street is selling the SAME air conditioner for \$25 LESS!



BEAG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF...



It's so hot out, even with the car air conditioner going full blast, I feel uncomfortable!

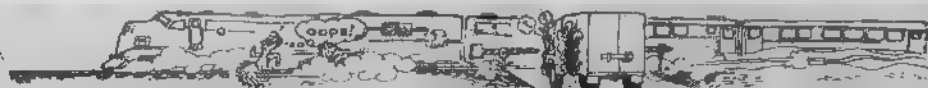
Not to worry! There's going to be a big thunderstorm shortly, and the heat wave will be broken!

What are you... some kind of prophet or soothsayer? How do you know all this?

Simple! I just heard it on the radio!

Don't make me crazy!! I was listening to the same radio you were! I heard no such statement! What'd you hear?

Static...!!



You kids are keeping nice and cool in your Kiddy Pool, but I'm working up a sweat, mopping up after you every time you come in with your wet feet!



So I'm laying some **NEWSPAPERS** down on the floor! This ought to take care of the problem!



Hey, Mom! See what good kids we are!!

Yeah! We didn't get your newspapers wet!



NO OFF

ARTIST & WRITER: DAVE BERG

Hey, this is your next-door neighbor, Roger Kaputnik! Your lawn sprinkler is lapping over onto my property ... and it's almost wetting down my patio!



Gee, I-I didn't know that!



Well, you should!! I think it's very inconsiderate of you ... especially on such a hot day!

I'm sorry! I'll go out and move it right away!



I wish you would!

About **FIVE FEET CLOSER!!**



It's freezing in here! Will you turn down that darn air conditioner!!



I just get it to a comfortable level, and you come in here and complain! You're always complaining! Night and day, you complain over every little thing!



This is a hell of a meaningful relationship we have! We can't even agree on the room temperature!



Why must we always fight? Why must I always give in?? Why can't we be civilized???



For once, I'll agree with you! You're right! Let's compromise! You'll do a little ... and I'll do a little! Okay? First, you turn down the air conditioner!



Okay ... that's what I'll do! Now, what'll YOU do?

I'll stop complaining!!



It's about time! Where in heck were you?



Stalled in the lousy rush-hour traffic! With these high temperatures, cars were overheating like crazy!



Well, that's too bad! All afternoon, I slaved over a hot stove to make you a nice meal! It's been on the dining room table for two hours, waiting for you!



It's too warm for a big, heavy, hot meal! Do you have anything cold ... ?



I sure do!



YOUR DINNER!!



Will you look at that? Those girls are practically naked!!



Is there no modesty left? Is there no shame? What happened to morality? Is sex the only thing on people's minds today?



Calm down! Have a little empathy! It's 93 degrees! The theory is ... the less encumbering the clothes, the cooler the person is!



A false assumption!

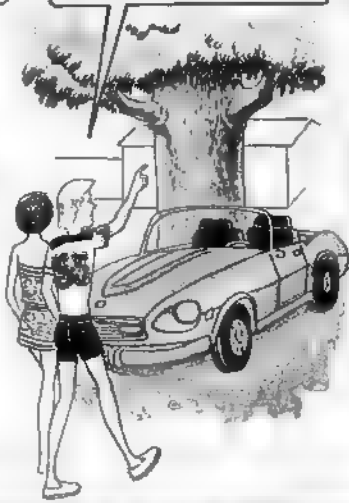
The cooler THEY get ... the HOTTER I GET!!



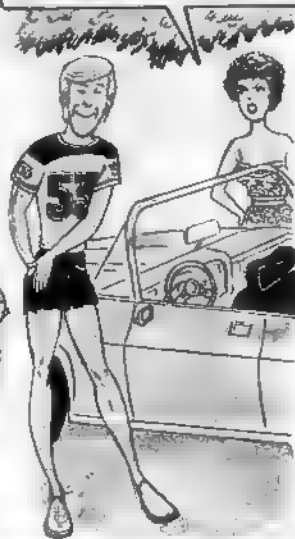
You know how it is when you get into a convertible that's been parked in the hot sun? You can burn your butt off!!



Well, this time, I used my noodle! I parked under a nice shady tree! Now, I can sit on the seat in comfort!



Don't be so smug! You're not the only smart thing around!



The birds ALSO park under nice shady trees!



Whew! This jogging is hot work!

Just keep thinking "ice cubes"! As soon as we get home, we'll go straight to the refrigerator and get out the ice trays!



I can remember popping an ice cube into my mouth and sucking on its cooling liquid! I can remember taking handfuls of cubes and rubbing them through my hair and around my face and down my neck and into the hollows of my armpits and over my chest and belly and down my legs! I can remember how refreshing it was!

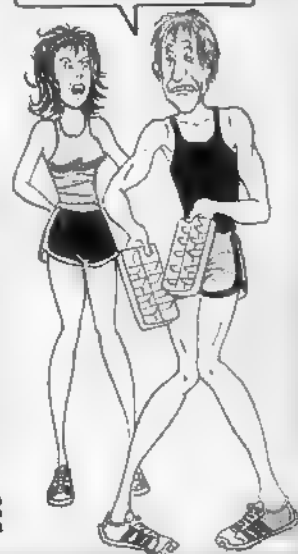


Boy, you sure have a graphic memory!



Why shouldn't I? I just did this yesterday, and—

I DIDN'T remember to re-fill the ice trays!!



Ahhhhhhh... this is delicious...



All day long... while I was sweating in that hot office, I kept promising myself the FIRST THING I was going to do when I got home was jump into the pool and cool off!!



Okay... that's enough cooling off! Dinner is on the table...



Coming...



What do you think you're doing . . . sitting around the living room in only your **UNDERWEAR**???

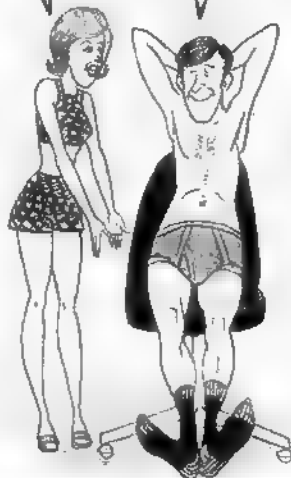
Making myself **cool** and **com-fortable**!

But, what if company should come in???

When I **HEAR** someone at the **door**, I'll dash into the **bedroom**!

Besides, I wish you'd **GET OFF MY BACK!** It's **TOO HOT** today for any-one to be visiting! **NO-ONE's** gonna **COME IN!!**

Did somebody say, "**Come in!**"??



Oh-oh! We're gonna have a **THUNDERSTORM!** Which means—after this long heat wave—I'm gonna be nice an' cool!

You mean a **cold front** is headed this way, and when it meets up with all this hot air, it causes **thunder** and **lightning** and **rain** . . .

And that breaks the heat wave!

I don't know about any of those things! I only know I'm terrified of **thunder** and **lightning**!

So I hide in the **basement**, where it's nice an' cool!

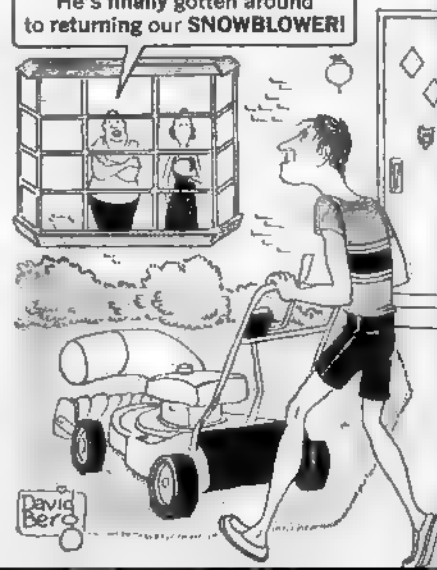


Hmm! Our friendly neighbor is coming up the walk! You know, somehow, he makes me **FORGET** that this is the hottest day of the Summer!

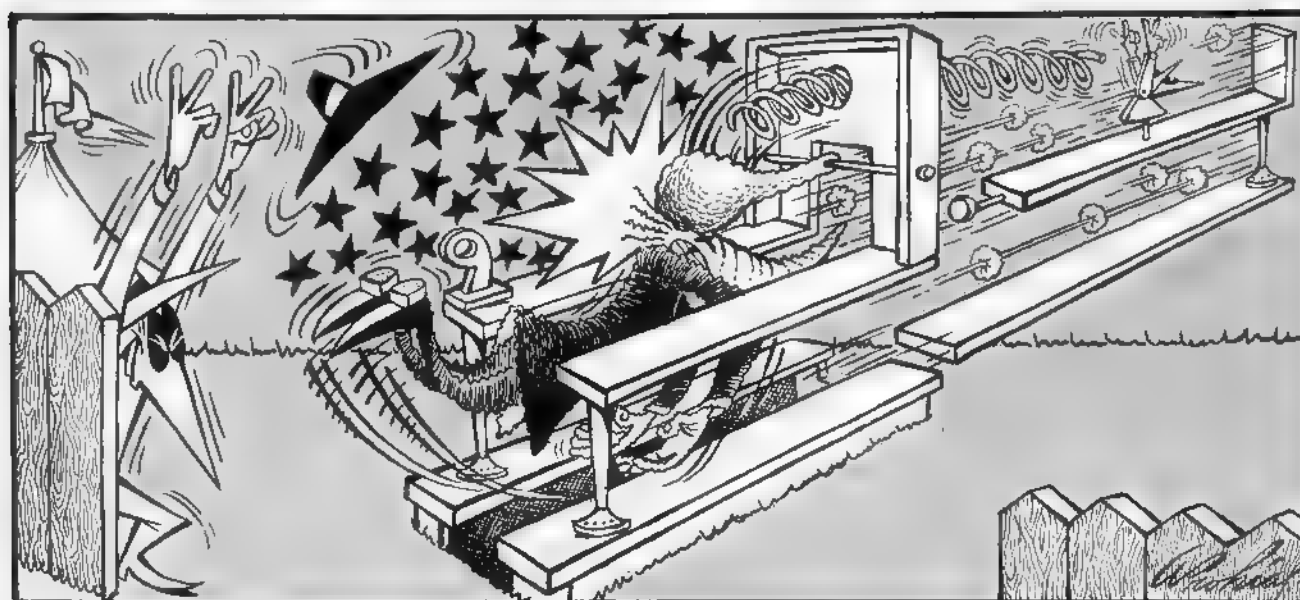
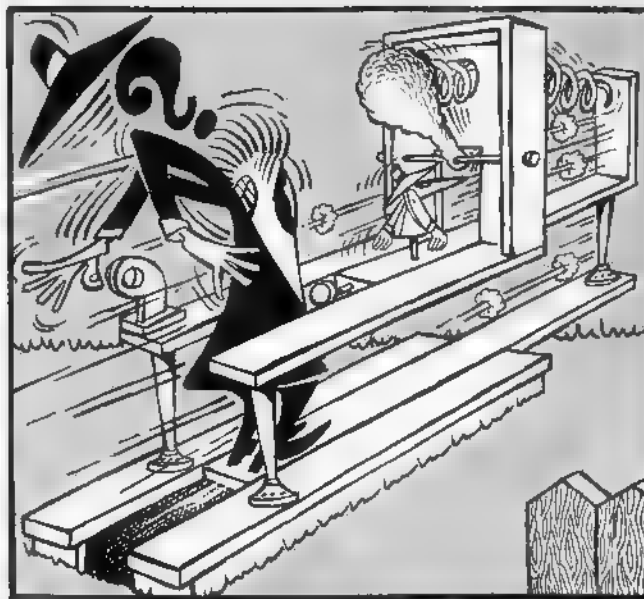
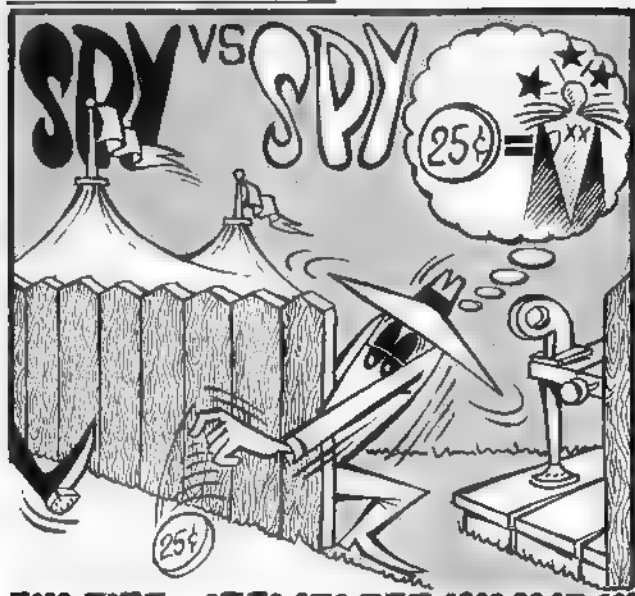
Somehow, he inspires cool-ing thoughts! Like **LAST WINTER** . . . with **BELOW-ZERO** temperatures . . . and **DRIFTS** right up to my belly-button!

How could our neighbor coming up the walk do all that for you . . . ??

He's finally gotten around to returning our **SNOWBLOWER!**



David Bero



MAD'S TABLE OF LITTLE USELESS WEIGHTS

ARTIST: BOB CLARKE

198 SQUARE MILES



... is the amount of "Saran Wrap" the average person overpulls in a lifetime.

2.3 FEET



... is the total film footage devoted to the plot of an average porno movie.

822 MILLION CUBIC FEET



... is the amount of air displaced yearly by the burping of Tupperware.

3.8 MILES



... is the average length of all the varicose veins in your Grandmother's legs when they are laid out end to end.

14.2 MILES



... is the average distance traveled by an individual American in 1977 to avoid hearing "The Star Wars" theme.

5.6 OUNCES



... is the amount of sweat from your armpit that makes it all the way down to your waist over an average year.

3.2 OUNCES



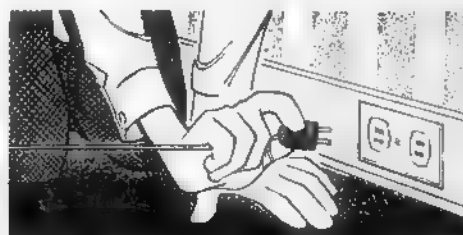
... is the average amount of wax that drips all over the icing on a Birthday cake before the candles are blown out.

5.8 CENTIMETERS



... is how far your rear-view mirror always moves from the time you leave your car until you get back into it.

2.3 INCHES



... is the average distance between the wall socket and how far the plug of your new appliance cord reaches.

1.1 INCHES



... is the total average length of the "Obituary" of the most famous person 32 you're ever likely to know personally.

3.2 OUNCES



... is the amount of spit you lick on your fingers when thumbing through an average copy of the Sunday N.Y. Times.

.571 MILES

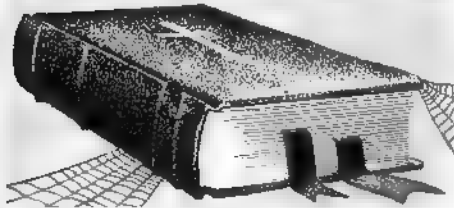


... is the average distance a cockroach runs from the time you spot it till the time you finally grab the can of "Raid."

KNOWN AND VERY MEASURES & DISTANCES

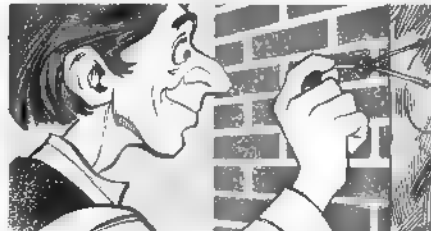
WRITER: JOHN FICARRA

12.5 GRAMS



... is the amount of dust that collects on the family Bible between readings.

3.4 INCHES



... is the diameter of the best part of the Farrah Fawcett Majors poster.

4.2 GALLONS



... is precisely how much the average person overwaters his plants each week.

1/2 OUNCE



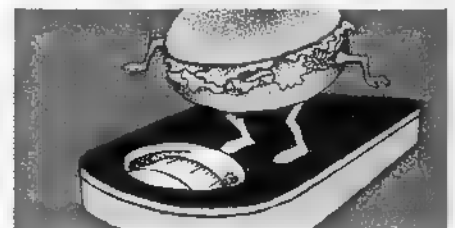
... is the amount of liquor an average teenager drinks before he starts bragging to friends how drunk he really is.

5/8 INCH



... is the minimum average thickness of any book that a Teacher assigns you to read by the time the class meets again.

1/32 OF A POUND



... is the average weight of a famous fast-food chain's "Quarter-Pounder" hamburger, after it's finished cooking.

127.8 MILES



... is the total distance an average person walks in his lifetime getting up to change the channel of a TV set.

4.6 BLOCKS



... is how far the average person will go out of his way just to walk by the marquee of an X-rated movie theater.

2.1 CENTIMETERS



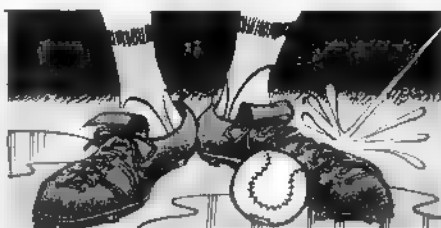
... is how much Carol Burnett's right earlobe is stretched after 11 seasons of pulling it at the end of each show.

3.7 INCHES



... is the average distance remaining between your hand and the toll booth's automatic ticket-dispensing machine.

9.5 GALLONS



... is the amount of tobacco juice and spit on the floor of a baseball team's dugout after a Saturday double-header.

12.9 FEET



... is the average length of festive lights you string up on the Christmas tree each year before you realize that you've started at the wrong end again.



ILL LOGIC DEPT.

There was a time when we Americans prided ourselves on being practical, clear-headed people. Unlike the world's older societies, we didn't have all the entrenched customs and fears that made us hang onto idiotic ideas just because our ancestors had thought of them first. Nope, we were too flexible and open-minded to fall into that trap...until recently. Now, long years of listening to such fuzzy thinkers as politicians, news commentators and TV advertisers have finally made us all soft in the head. As a result, we've come to view our lives and the world around us with the same amazing lack of logic that we've learned from our peerless leaders. If you have any doubts, just consider these generally accepted attitudes toward modern life, and then ask yourself the question:

WHY DO WE

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to slave and sacrifice to get into an exclusive college with a world-renowned faculty, and then cut every class where the prof doesn't take attendance?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to blow our life savings on a trip to Europe when it's possible to find places right here at home where we can be overcharged, short-changed and treated with utter contempt?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to gamble at a Las Vegas Hotel that just built a brand new 50-million dollar annex with the profits it made from its gambling casino?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to give Latino kids an equal chance to get good grades by educating them in Spanish, when it means they'll have no chance to get good jobs later on because they can't speak any English?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to spend millions on a School Hot Lunch Program so poor kids can have nutritious meals, and then serve them watery glitch which isn't nutritious at any temperature?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to pay the Russians a fortune for the TV rights to the 1980 Olympics just so we can watch our athletes lose because they didn't have enough money to train properly?

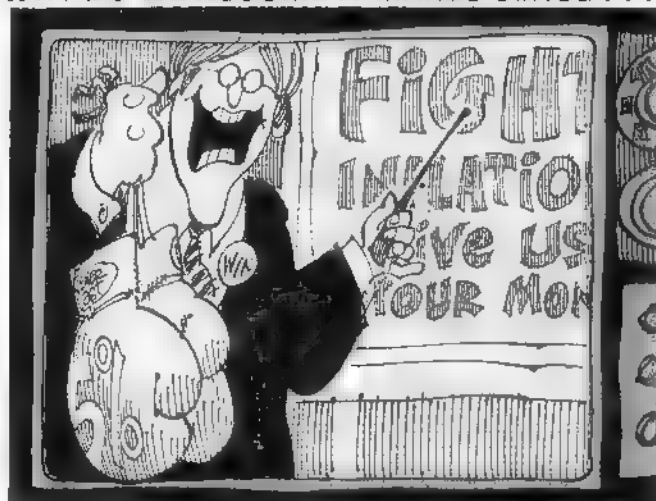
ASSUME

ARTIST: PAUL COKER

WRITER: TOM KOCH

IT

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to plan for the future when the evening TV news keeps telling us that everything we eat, wear or breathe could kill us tomorrow?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to believe those bank commercials that tell us we can outsmart a 9% inflation rate by opening an account that pays 5% interest?

MAKES SENSE?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to confuse ourselves for years to come by converting to the metric system when it will only benefit the huge multi-national corporations that we've never really been too crazy about anyway?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to trust terrorists to keep bargains after they've already shown us we can't trust them to behave rationally under any circumstances.

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to increase Social Security taxes while we cut income taxes, thereby leaving the same people broke...but for a different reason?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to spray American poisons on marijuana growing in Mexico when we know we can't stop the smugglers from bringing the deadly stuff into this country and selling it to Americans?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



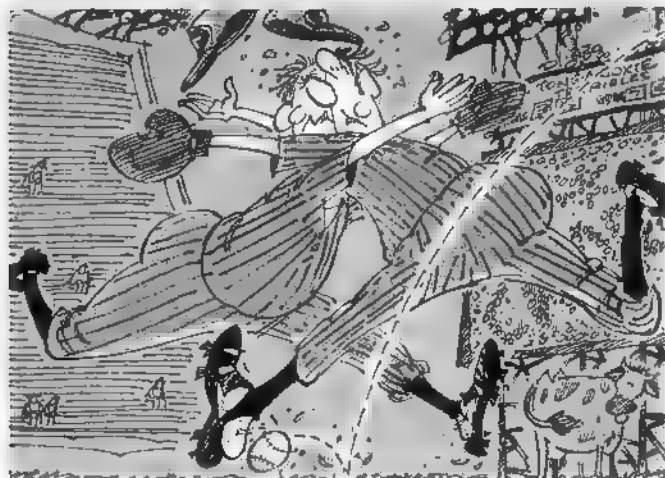
...to allow famous lawyers the chance to gain publicity by defending homicidal maniacs, while minor offenders who may deserve a break usually don't have any lawyers at all?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to stop having our kids inoculated against polio because we think other parents have all had their kids inoculated, so there's nobody left to catch it from?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to keep expanding our professional sports leagues into new cities when there obviously aren't enough really good players available for the teams that already exist?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...for politicians who slander each other through the whole campaign suddenly to display great mutual affection by embracing in public the day after the election?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



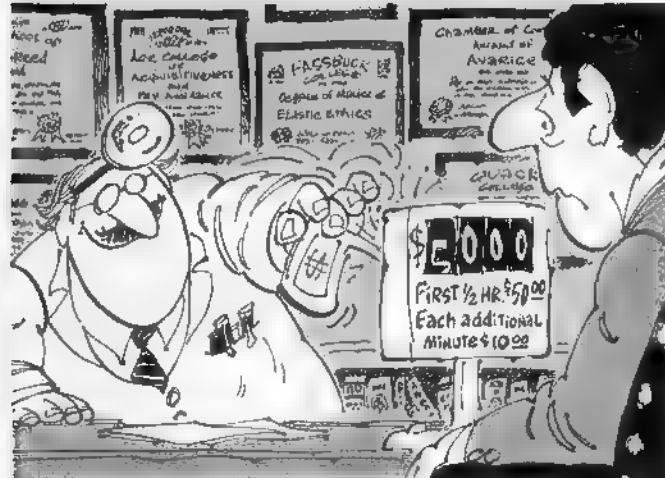
...to accept an inferior education for everyone as the price we have to pay for the school integration that was supposed to bring a better education to everyone?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...to shame the British, French and Portuguese colonists into leaving Africa so it will be easier for the Cuban, Russian and Chinese colonists to come in and take over?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .



...for doctors to warn us endlessly about the evils of Socialized Medicine, when their outrageous fees are the main evil that is making Socialized Medicine inevitable?

WHY DO WE ASSUME IT MAKES SENSE . . .

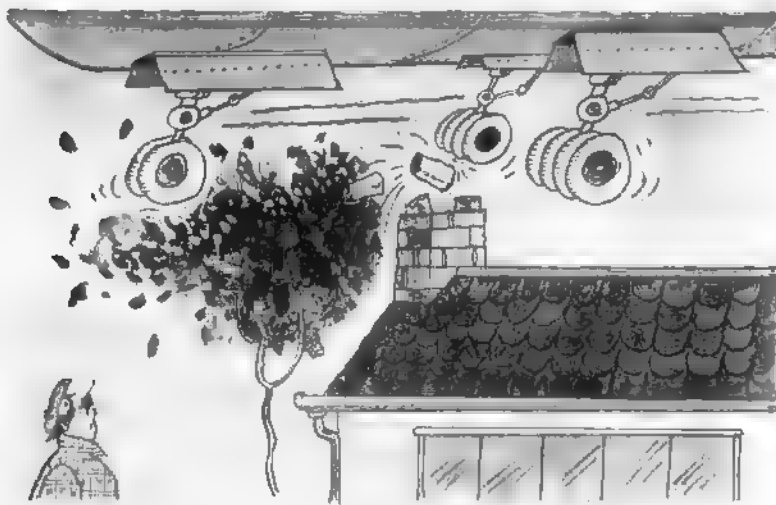


...to accept guidance on social and political issues from folks like Redd Foxx, Danny Thomas and Jane Fonda?

WAIT TILL YOU GET H



...news teams of the major TV Networks are parked on your lawn.



...your home is in the path of the new airport's landing pattern.



38 ...parking regulations on your street have been changed.



...your Wife has volunteered your house as Headquarters for the School Board elections.



...your Son, while away at school, had himself tattooed.

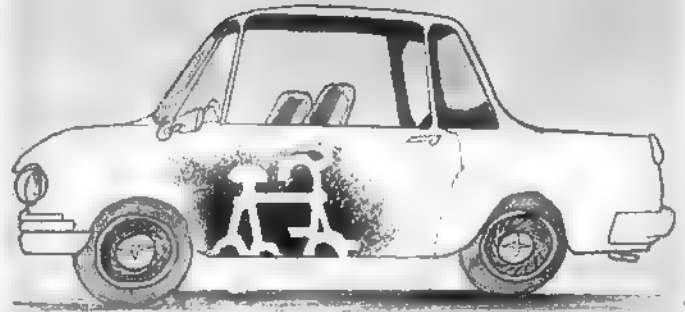


COME AND FIND THAT...

ARTIST & WRITER: PAUL PETER FORGES



...your do-it-yourself wallpapering job has come unglued.



...somebody spraypainted something against your new car.



...the container of stool specimen you forgot on the bus had your name and address on it.



...a computer has found you and your seven unpaid traffic tickets.



...the weeds in your herb garden can be smoked in skinny cigarettes.



DEVICE, MAN, COMETH DEPT.

In a recent issue, we noted that everywhere we shop today, we see products with the words "NEW-IMPROVED" printed all over them. But after we buy these products and start using them, we find the only thing "new" and "improved" is the higher price—

MORE "NEW-IMPROVED" REALLY ARE NEW

ARTIST & WRITER: AL JAFFEE

NEW-IMPROVED PEANUT BUTTER (AND OTHER STICKY STUFF) JAR



Scraping out the last remaining amounts of peanut butter (or other sticky substances like cream, paste, etc.) from a jar can often be a back-breaking, time-consuming affair.

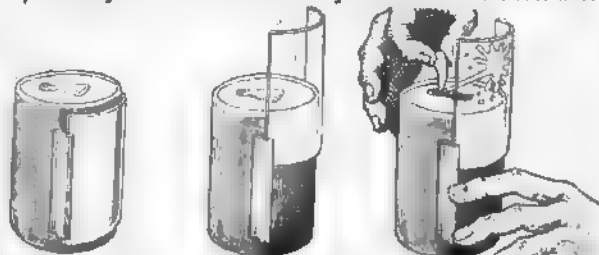
New-Improved peanut butter (... and other sticky stuff) jar has double lids, top and bottom. When user gets down to bottom, he merely turns the jar over, unscrews the other lid and easily removes the contents.



NEW-IMPROVED BEVERAGE CAN



There are many types of beverage cans on the market, each with a different tab or other method of opening. But in one respect they are all the same. They each soak the customer.



New-Improved beverage can has the usual spraying problem, but it also has the solution: a spray shield attachment—which is conveniently out of the way when not in use, but slides into place to protect the user when tab is removed.

NEW-IMPROVED TUBE DISPENSER



Rolling tubes up in squeeze out the last drops of toothpaste, vaseline, hair cream, etc., can be frustrating. No matter how hard you try, you always miss getting it all. Or else the tube bursts, oozing stuff all over your hands.

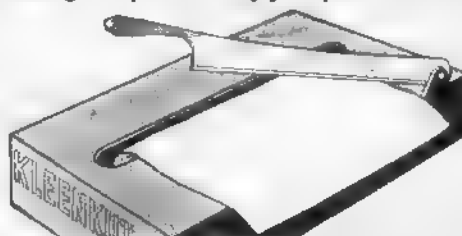


New-Improved tube dispenser has built-in key in its base for neat, easy, perfect rolling up to get every last drop. Holes in key are handy for hanging tube on bathroom hook.

NEW-IMPROVED BOXED TISSUES



Nothing is wasted in greater amounts than disposable tissues. Nothing except the money you spend on those tissues.



New-Improved boxed tissues are dispensed to fit your need. No longer is a full-sized tissue used for a mere snuffle as well as a full-blown runny nose. Paper cutter controls size.

which is new and improved for the manufacturer, but how about us consumers? MAD thinks it's about time there really were products that are new and improved. And so we've gone back to the old drawing board again this issue, and we've come up with

ED" PRODUCTS THAT AND IMPROVED

IDEA: BILLY DOHERTY

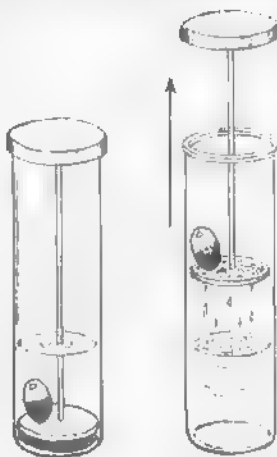


NEW-IMPROVED OLIVE JAR



Regular olive jars are long and thin, and after a while, olives are out of reach of even the longest finger. Even forks are useless when skittery olives are way **in** bottom.

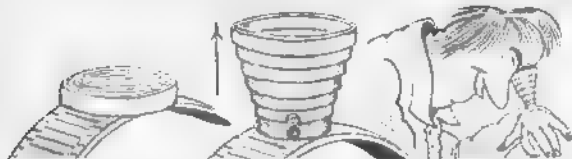
New—Improved olive jar has a plastic retriever inside it, made **up** of a rod and perforated disc attached to the jar's lid. When lid is unscrewed and raised, rod and disc bring olives up. Perforations in disc allow liquid to run down into jar while drip-free olives—even the last one—can be easily removed.



NEW-IMPROVED DIGITAL WATCH



Most digital watches, especially the LED (light emitting diode) types, cannot be read in bright sunlight. This is one drawback that annoys many owners and is hurting sales.

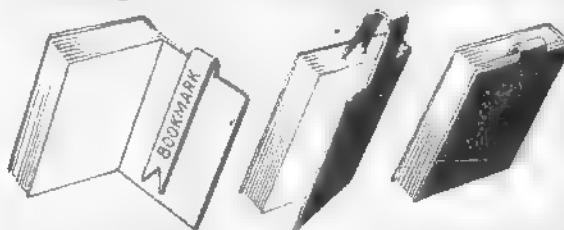


New—Improved digital watch has telescoping viewing tube that lifts easily for daylight use and completely eliminates the annoying problem of reading watch in bright light.

NEW-IMPROVED PAPERBACK BOOK



Anyone who has lost his place in a paperback book knows how frustrating it can be. And bookmarks always fall out.

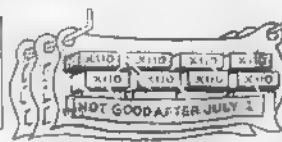


New—Improved paperback book has bookmark as part of back cover. It is folded inside for protection against handling in stores, but easily folds out to be placed anywhere in the book. Losing bookmark or your place is now impossible.

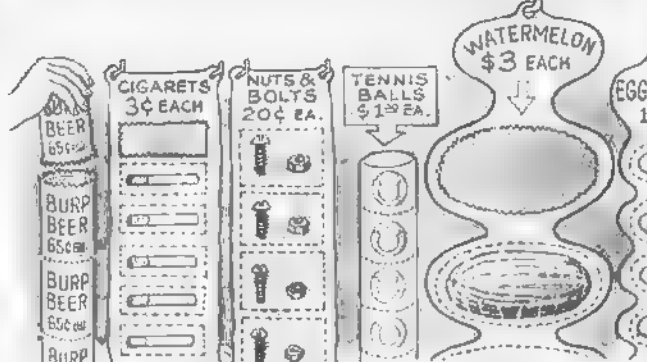
NEW-IMPROVED MULTI-PACKS



MULTI-PAK
PHOTO
FILM
\$59.99



Anyone who's been forced to buy several multi-packed items when all **he** needed was one knows how infuriating it can be.

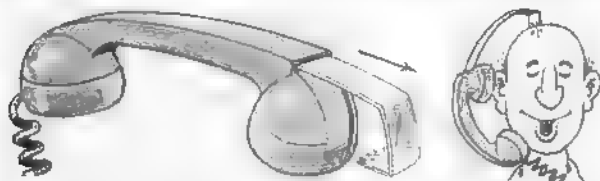


New—Improved multi-packaging lets you take as many items as you actually need . . . and that's all you have **to** pay for.

NEW-IMPROVED TELEPHONE



The standard telephone is difficult to hold between your shoulder and your ear when both your hands are occupied.



New-Improved telephone has concealed "Head-Hook" © that can be pulled out and adjusted to fit any shape of head.

NEW-IMPROVED BUTTON



Regular buttons have a habit of popping off at the most inconvenient times. Finding needle and thread, especially correct color thread, is usually difficult or impossible.

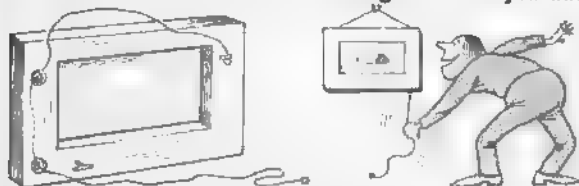


New-Improved button has snap-off/snap-on outer ring. A slight thumb pressure snaps off ring, and hidden needle and thread is revealed. After sewing, ring snaps back on.

NEW-IMPROVED PICTURE FRAME

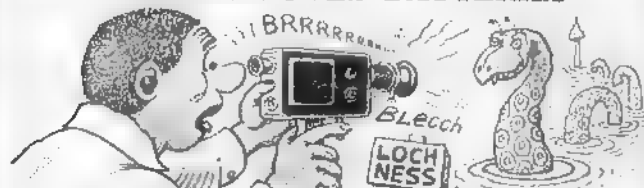


Under the best of circumstances, hanging a picture is a pain in the part you sit on. Not only is it blind guess-work as to where it will wind up, but trying to get the wire onto the hook behind it is enough to drive you nuts.



New-Improved picture frame has hollow channel in one side of frame for wire to pass through. Picture wire is easily placed over hook, and by pulling wire through channel, the picture is hoisted to exact position desired. Wire is then fastened to tie-down post, and excess wire can be cut off.

NEW-IMPROVED BATTERIES



Regular batteries go dead without warning, mostly at the most critical times. Often they even go quietly dead when not in use, corroding the insides of valuable equipment.

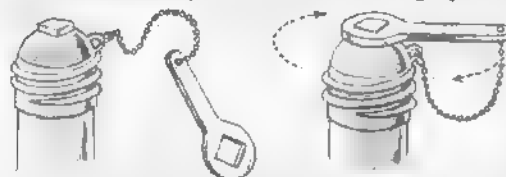


New-Improved battery contains a tiny micro alarm system. Just before battery goes dead, last bit of remaining power turns on buzzer to alert owner, thereby avoiding problems.

NEW-IMPROVED TWIST-OFF CAP



Anyone who has ever broken nails or torn fingers trying to open a twist-off cap knows what sheer agony it can be.



New-Improved twist-off cap comes with its own handy easy-to-use twist-off wrench. In addition to convenience, user has better control and, by opening cap slowly, is able to release pressure so carbonated soda doesn't spray all over.

NEW-IMPROVED TENNIS RACQUET



Regular tennis racquets have handles that always seem to be in the way when being carried or packed for traveling.



New-Improved tennis racquet has collapsible telescoping handle that folds away for convenient carrying or packing.

SHOOTING CRAP DEPT.

There's a popular television show that uses Las Vegas as its background, and a lot of nifty-looking young show girls as its foreground. That much is pleasantly clear. It's the plots of this private-eye-type weekly adventure series that seem

VAGUE-\$



ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES

WRITER: DICK DE BARTOLO





Will you help me?

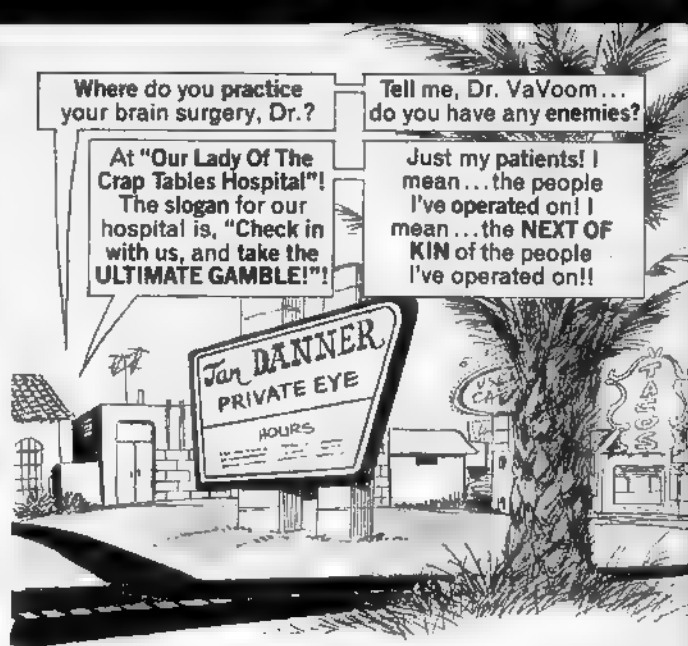
I'd like to, but I can't! I'm working on another case now!

You're NOT working on another case!

I know! But one of the gimmicks in this series is having the clients **BEG** for my services!

Oh, please, Mr. Danner! Pretty please?! Pretty please with sugar on it?!

Okay! OKAY...!



Where do you practice your brain surgery, Dr.?

At "Our Lady Of The Crap Tables Hospital"! The slogan for our hospital is, "Check in with us, and take the **ULTIMATE GAMBLE!**"!

Tell me, Dr. VaVoom... do you have any enemies?

Just my patients! I mean... the people I've operated on! I mean... the **NEXT OF KIN** of the people I've operated on!!

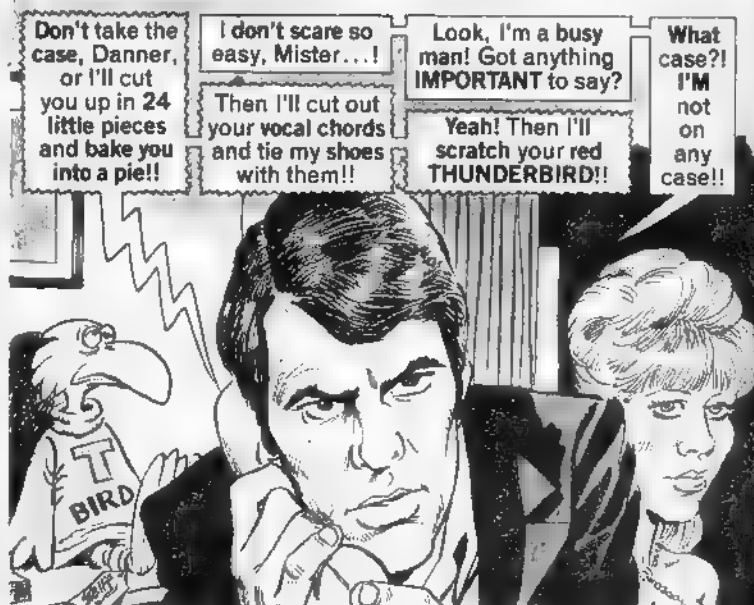


Any other enemies?

Well, there's my ex-Husband! When I divorced him, he swore he'd kill me!

Well, it **CAN'T** be him! That's **TOO** obvious!

Too obvious for **OTHER** shows, maybe! But just about right for **THIS** one! Remember, we can't take too much time for plot, or it'll take away from our shots of Las Vegas, and our interminable car chases!



Don't take the case, Danner, or I'll cut you up in 24 little pieces and bake you into a pie!!

I don't scare so easy, Mister...!

Then I'll cut out your vocal chords and tie my shoes with them!!

Look, I'm a busy man! Got anything **IMPORTANT** to say?

Yeah! Then I'll scratch your red **THUNDERBIRD!**

What case?! I'm not on any case!!

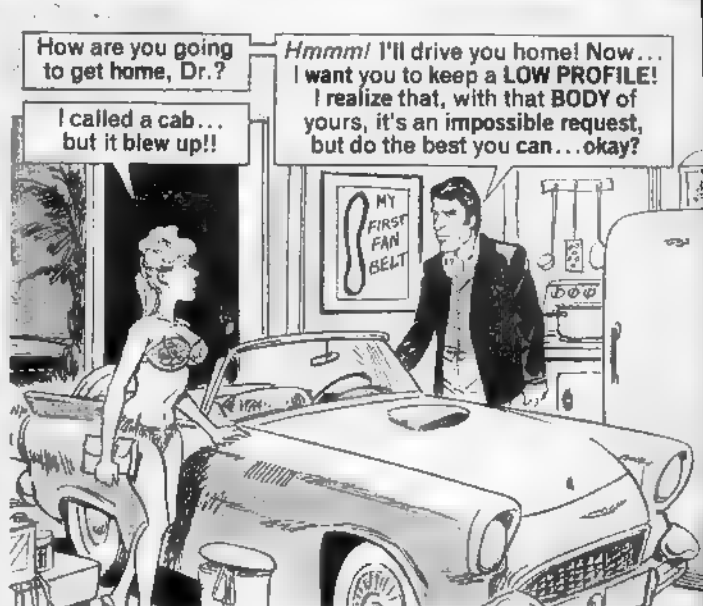


Awgee, while I was talking, did you trace the call?

Yes, I did! See? I'm not so dumb! The call went down this little wire and into that wall there!

And you wonder why you haven't been appearing on the show every week, lately...?!

This show is on **EVERY WEEK!?! When did THAT start?!? Gee, I thought it was a MONTHLY "SPECIAL"!!**



How are you going to get home, Dr.?

I called a cab... but it blew up!!

Hmmm! I'll drive you home! Now... I want you to keep a **LOW PROFILE!** I realize that, with that **BODY** of yours, it's an impossible request, but do the best you can... okay?



Hmmm! This is unusual! We're being followed!

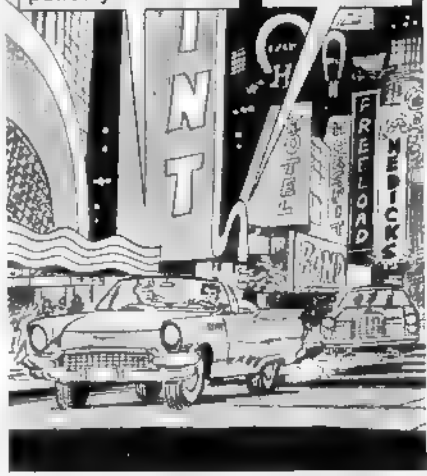
Not while I'm still on my DRIVEWAY!! Let's get out on the open road and give 'em some REAL following room!

What's unusual about that? You get followed EVERY week!



The way you drive through this town, I'm amazed that the Police haven't pulled your license!

I'm too smart for that kind of thing! I don't HAVE a license!



Do you think you should be driving down this Main St. sidewalk with so many pedestrians around?

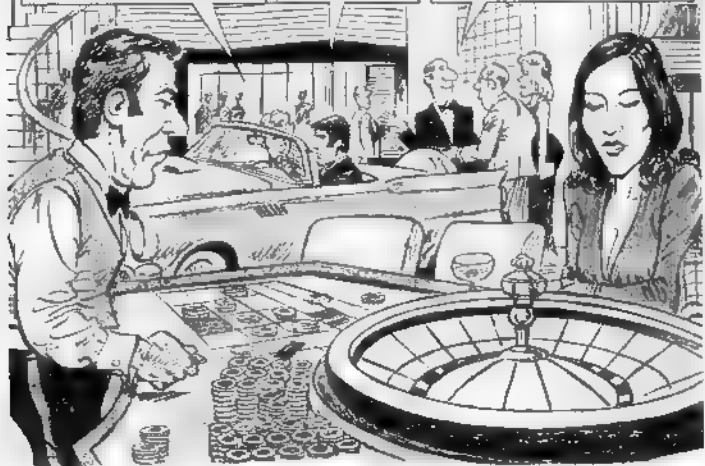
Why not? They came to Las Vegas to gamble! Walking on any street I drive on is a gamble!!



When I mentioned we should get off the sidewalk, I DIDN'T mean we should drive through the HOTELS!

Don't worry! This town is so INSANE, no one will even notice!

The "Men's Room"? See that Thunderbird that just drove by us...? Follow it up those stairs and take a left!



Hey, isn't that TONY CURTIS—sitting there in the lobby??

Yeah! He's reading the fine print in his contract! When our Producers told him he'd appear every week, he never realized they meant only in the OPENING TITLE SCENES!



That was some car chase! I don't know how you did it, but you lost them!!

I think I shook them in the Supermarket...or maybe it was when I made that U-turn inside the Church! Now, go lock yourself in, and call me if anything happens...

But—But, Mr. Danner! I don't live HERE!!

So walk home! I can't have a good car chase...and have a destination in mind, tool!



Boy, Officer...when you said I'd see a real Las Vegas "Line-Up"...you weren't kidding!!



Hi, there gorgeous! —I need some help! I've got a problem!

What makes you think you can march in here, week after week, with sketchy details, and use me to find out important information for your clients?!

Just because I'm getting on in years, and I'm lonely, and you're this young, good-looking, tall, dark macho-type...

What do you want, Tan...? I'll do ANYTHING you want!

I need some information on my client's former Husband!

That's it? No name? No address? No description? No picture? No license number?

Ulp... Okay! Okay! I'll FIND your villain! How much time do I have?

Four minutes!

Gee! That's a lot longer than usual!

Hey, Feller, look at this muscle!

WANTED
A MALE - ANY MALE
6'2" - 106 LBS

Tan, this is Dr. VaVoom!! Somebody just fired a SHOT through my window!

I can't come over right now! I'm busy driving my car back and forth in front of "The Desert Inn" so they'll get some more free exposure... and we'll get some more free rooms for our cast and crew!

But, I'll tell you what... I'll send over my Assistant, Finzter!

Will he be able to protect me?

No, but he'll do his usual silly things... and whoever has the gun will be more inclined to try to end HIS life than YOURS!

Hi, there! I'm Finzter!

Oh... hello! I'm Dr. VaVoom!

Well, I hope you never get a chest cold, Doc! Because with a shape like that, it could be fatal!

Danner was RIGHT! If I had a gun, I'd shoot you myself!!

DESERT INN
ROY CLUCK
CHICK LITTLE
FARLEY'S BAR

Gun? Shoot? Hey, wait a minute! I'm not INTO Crime! I'm just the "COMEDY RELIEF" on this show!

The "COMEDY RELIEF" on this show?! With THESE plots? That's like saying STEVE MARTIN needs "Comedy Relief"!!

Mr. Danner... I have your weekly "Heart Of Gold" telephone call on the line!

Tan, this is Gloria! I kind of want to thank you for what you did!

What do you mean "KIND of want to thank me", Gloria?

Well, you knew I had a bad fall, and I couldn't afford a Doctor, so I just assumed that the Doctor who showed up here was sent by you!

He WAS! What did he say...?

He said I'd fractured my HIND QUARTER, and I'd never RACE again!

Hey, Gloria, what did you expect for free?! The Surgeon General?!

MEN

WANNA BET?
— SEE NICK THE SPARTAN —
← INSIDE



Is it really true Tan has a soft spot in his heart?

Let's put it this way! Three weeks ago, some hood spent every dime he had to have Tan rubbed out! And when Tan found out about it, he lent the hood \$500 until he could get back on his feet again!

No wonder you two are such a great team! He has a soft spot in his HEART—and you've got a soft spot in your HEAD!

Here's your info! For a clue, you gave me "client's former Husband"! So I fed "Divorced Male," "Las Vegas Resident" and—since she hired you—"capable of committing crime" into the computer and came up with TWO POSSIBILITIES!

Two possibilities? TWO??! Now I'm supposed to find out WHICH ONE? Sure, leave the HARD Detective Work to ME!!

One of the two is deceased!!

Well, that makes it a LITTLE EASIER!!

Boy, you want it real easy, huh?

What easy? I take a lot of chances in my work! There might be a contract out on me right now!

There's no chance of that, so don't worry!

Yeah...? Who told you that? Some thug??

No... your Agent!

Don't open that door! It could be a trap!

Who is it, please?

You can open it!

Well, in that case, he can't charge too much!

I've got my sense of humor!

But I don't HAVE a swimming pool!

You know, Mr. Danner and his dumb Secretary make it on their looks! You have nothing going for you at all!

Like I said... NOTHING at all!!

KNOCK KNOCK

Excuse me! Did I say, "Swimming Pool Cleaner"? I meant to say "Plumber"!

How about Telephone Repair?

Salesman calling!

Swimming Pools... and I KNOW you don't have one!

I didn't call a Plumber!

My telephone is working!

What are you selling?

Go away! I am NOT going to open this door!

I'll bet I can get you to open it...

Who's there?

Script Doctor!

WAIT! I'm opening the door! Stay there! Don't go away!!

Knock knock!

You fell for the **NEWEST TRICK** in the book! Look at you! The minute we split up, you take up with another man!

ANOTHER MAN? Thanks for the **COMPLIMENT!**

Thanks for the **INSULT!**

Why did you bring us up to the roof?

Because, besides car chases, this show is very big on people falling or being pushed from high places!

HIGH PLACES? This is a two-story building!

So you'll have to fall **SIX** or **SEVEN** times!!

I'm looking for someone!

Maybe this will help freshen your memory!

11,000,000 visitors a year, and you want me to help you find someone?

Gee, thank you, Sir! Thank you! The guy you're looking for is up on the roof right now!!

Hey... isn't he kinda **YOUNG** to be a Detective?

Yeah! For a **BRIBE**, he gave me a candy bar!

Okay... drop it!!

Not HER!! The GUN!!

That's just what I was going to do!

How in blazes do you always manage to show up at the right time with so **FEW CLUES**??

Your truck is parked outside, and it was very suspicious!

What's so suspicious about my truck...?

There aren't many trucks that say "Swimming Pool Cleaning," "Plumber," "Telephone Repairman," "Salesman," and "Script Doctor" around today!

Well, another case solved! I guess Dr. VaVoom's Husband will get ten-to-twenty for Attempted Murder!

I recommended a **SUSPENDED SENTENCE!** After all, he **DID** say he felt **REALLY BAD** about what he tried to do!

Boy, there's that old soft heart again!

Tan, I don't like to complain, but we usually try to end each show on a "high" note!

Uh—we'll be on again next week!

I said a **HIGH** note!

Okay, Finzter! For months now, you've been pestering me to get you a telephone for your car! Well, I got one for you!

Now that's what I call a high note!

Well... **KIND** of a high note!

Deposit 25¢ for the next three miles, please...

**WHAT TYPE OF
REVOLTING
THEATER FARE
WILL NOT APPEAR
THIS SUMMER...
THANK GOD!**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

Several years ago, a new kind of revolting show came into summer theatres. And last summer, it came back again. But this year, fortunately, it looks like it will not appear. To find out what it is, fold in page.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A)

FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT

B) FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



**A MOVING EXPERIENCE IS RARE IN SUMMER THEATER. MORE
CALAMITIES THAN HITS ARE STAGED. SHOWS ONCE HAILED
JOYOUSLY ON "BROADWAY" ARE REVIVED WITH NEW FLAWS
THAT MAKE DEVOTEES OF THE ORIGINAL SCREAM, YIII!**

ARTIST AND WRITER:
AL JAFFEE

A)

B)

**WHAT TYPE OF
REVOLTING
THEATER FARE
WILL NOT APPEAR
THIS SUMMER...
THANK GOD!**



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

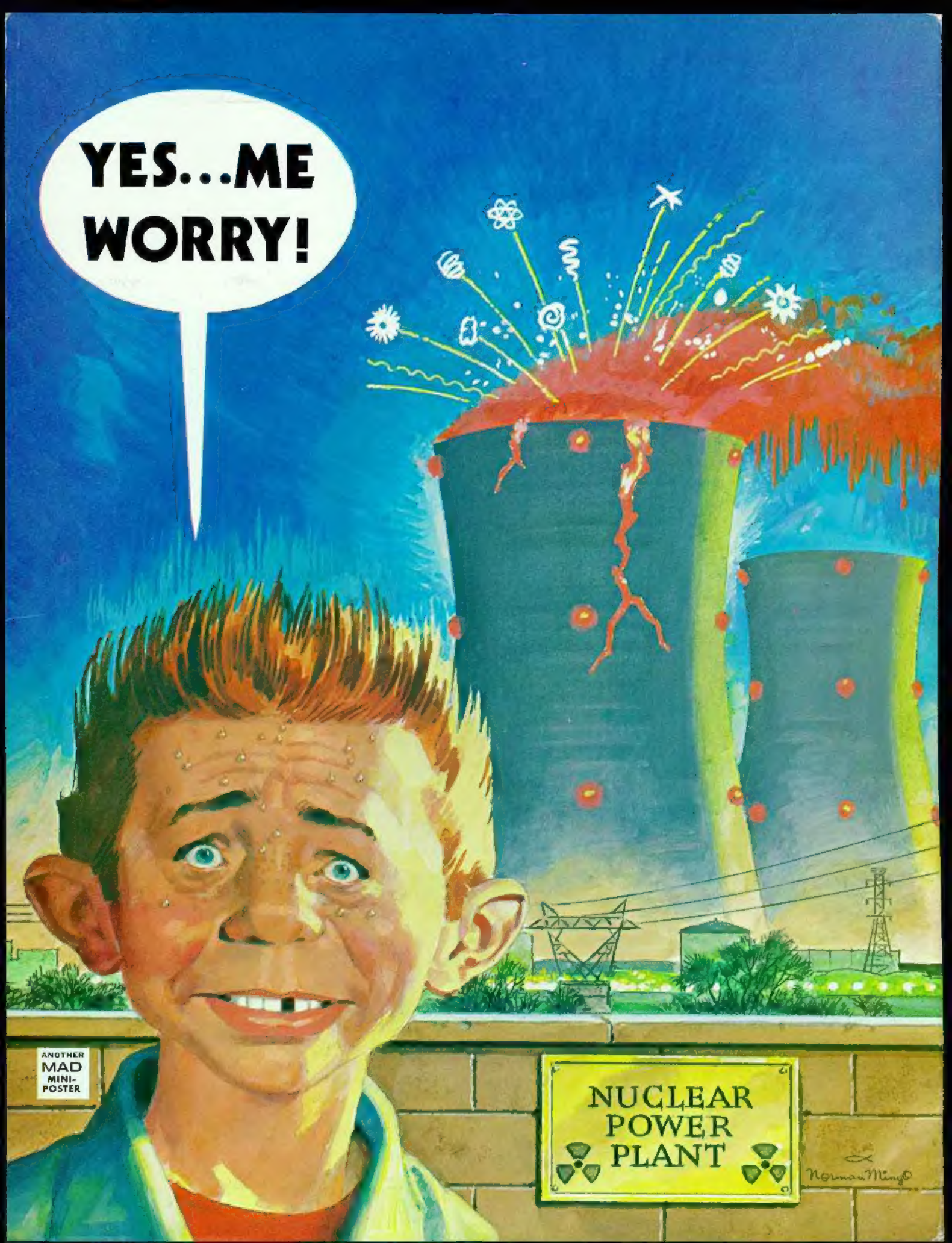
A) (B FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



**ARTIST AND WRITER:
AL JAFFEE**

**A MOVIE
CALLED
JAWS
III!
AMB**

**YES...ME
WORRY!**



ANOTHER
MAD
MINI-
POSTER

NUCLEAR
POWER
PLANT

Norman Ming